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CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, how would you rate the chances of the Legislature passing a budget before the fiscal year ends on Oct. 1?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Q&A

Get the low-down on the CNMI Transitional Worker Classification with the Question & Answer information sheet issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

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10th Anniversary

Today's edition of the *Saipan Tribune* features a series of articles that mark the 10th commemoration of the Sept. 11 attacks.

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Worker rule ignites concerns

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Starting Oct. 7, employers in the CNMI can start petitioning their employees for a Commonwealth-only worker status that would allow them to remain in the CNMI at least until Dec. 31, 2014, but the final rule for these transitional workers has drawn varied concerns that include deportation, rejection of applications, travel restrictions, and loss of status for immediate relatives of U.S. and Freely Associated States citizens.

RELATED NEWS

- Kilili disappointed with transitional worker regs. **PAGE 14**

This early, employers have difficulty deciding whether to petition their foreign workers for a CW status or any other nonimmigrant or immigrant classification under the Immigration and Nationality Act such as an H or L visa.

For an "accountant" position in the CNMI, for example, there's no definite policy whether it should be applied for a

See RULE on Page 4

Fund board questions legitimacy of beneficiaries derivative law

2 money managers terminate contracts with Fund

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund's board of trustees is questioning the validity of the newly signed Public Law 17-51 and will be sending a letter to the Fitial administration to ask for details relating to the approval of the measure.

As of 8:30pm last night, the trustees were still in an executive session, debating whether or not to challenge the law in court. The emergency meeting began around 4pm.

Public Law 17-51, which allows retirees and other Fund beneficiaries to sue on behalf of the NMI Retirement Fund, was signed by Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, with a Sept. 5 date on the transmittal letter. Sept. 5 was Labor Day, a holiday. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who had earlier promised not to sign the bill, had until Sept. 24 to act on it.

Because of concerns whether the law is valid or not, board counsel Viola Alepuyo was instructed to call and verify the exact date when the document was processed.

"What we can actually state now is

See FUND on Page 4

CNMI reflects on 911 and the War on Terror

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

"Boom. There's a large explosion," U.S. Army Reserve member Pedro Towai said, recalling the split second before he was thrown a few feet from his convoy vehicle while on a patrol mission in Balad, Iraq on Oct. 31, 2005. He was standing beside the third of four Army vehicles on patrol.

RELATED NEWS

- Remembering 9/11, a decade later. **PAGE 6**
- Kilili calls for minute of silence on 9/11. **PAGE 14**

The biggest horror of what had just happened came a few minutes later.

Two of his comrades, also from the CNMI, who were in the last vehicle—the late Army SSgt. Wilgene Lieto and Army SPC Derence Jack—lost their lives when their vehicle was hit by a bomb.

"That vehicle could have been our vehicle," Towai told *Saipan Tribune*. "We could have been the ones hit. The third person from the fourth vehicle was standing beside their vehicle. He was alive. The gunner and the driver, Jack

See CNMI on Page 4

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Jesus M. Castro and wife Ana Castro offer flowers at the makeshift memorial as a tribute to their son, Sgt. Jesse J.J. Castro, during the Commemoration Ceremony of the 10th Anniversary of Sept. 11 held at the Saipan Grand Hotel Seaside Hall yesterday. Organized by the U.S. Attorney's Office, the commemoration ceremony honored the 41 fallen soldiers from the CNMI, Guam, and other Pacific islands who have sacrificed their lives to protect the nation and its people's freedom since the tragic 9/11 terrorist attacks.

'We shall never forget'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks draws near, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and CNMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco expressed gratitude to the fallen soldiers from the CNMI, Guam, and other Pacific islands, including their families, for their sacrifices and commitment, which she said will not be forgotten.

See FORGET on Page 4

Local

Fitial asks DHS for new visa category

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has asked U.S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano to study the feasibility of a new visa category specifically for the CNMI, a request that's allowed in the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

The requested visa is called the CNMI-only visa category for retirees.

"Outside of obtaining an immigrant visa to retire and remain in the U.S. (CNMI) for lengthy and/or indefinite periods, with this letter we would respectfully request the Secretary of Homeland Security to study and investigate the creation of a CNMI-visa category for retirees," Fitial told Napolitano.

As of yesterday, the Fitial administration has yet to receive a response from the DHS secretary.

Fitial cited a provision in PL 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008 which would allow for the governors of the CNMI and/or Guam to request the DHS secretary for new visa categories "under which our plans and investments for retirement communities would still be viable under the new federal immigration authority."

Fitial

Douglas Brennan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said this visa category "could be the seed we plant to grow Asian retirement communities in the Commonwealth."

It was the Chamber that requested the governor to ask the DHS secretary for a feasibility study aimed at creating a special CNMI-only retirement visa classification.

Fitial said many business and civic organizations have identified the Asian retiree market as a natural economic extension or progression, based upon the CNMI's current visitor demographics.

There are still sizable investments in the CNMI from Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and other Asian countries.

"The CNMI administration values the worth of these past investments and economic development from our Asian neighbors and believes retirement communities will be a key facet to our economic revitalization as envisioned under Public Law 110-229," Fitial added.

Geothermal energy

In other news, Fitial met yesterday with his Strategic Economic Development Council, lawmakers, private sector representatives, and other government officials on Capital Hill for a presentation on geothermal energy from Chena Hot Springs owner Bernie Karl.

Fitial attended in August a renewable energy fair in Alaska at Karl's invitation.

In 2006, Karl installed a geothermal power system at the resort he owns in Alaska and earned additional green credentials.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said that yesterday's meeting only involved a geothermal presentation by Karl.

"He shared with the group the successes of geothermal energy as implemented in Chena within Fairbanks, Alaska. Basically, Mr. Karl shared how from the production of geothermal energy, its byproducts, such as water, can also be used to operate successful greenhouses…that are able to grow fresh fruits and vegetables all year round despite a climate that sees mostly winter," Demapan said.

Brennan later said that Karl's presentation was interesting. "Reduction of utility costs is important too," he said, adding that it is an integral facet of the fragile economy.

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First civil rights conference in NMI kicks off

»Limtiaco says hate crimes are federal offense; urges community to report

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Districts of Guam and the NMI kicked off yesterday a two-day civil rights conference in the CNMI at the Saipan Grand Hotel's Seaside Hall.

Barbara Kay Bosserman, senior legal counsel/professional responsibility officer for the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, talked about Matthew Shepard and the James Byrd Jr. Hate Crime Prevention Act and bias motivated or hate crimes. She also talked about civil rights cases and human trafficking.

Today, Friday, the trainers include Tracey Bardorf, special adviser for Mexico and Border Matters of the U.S. Customs and Enforcement; Amy Newman, attorney adviser for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of the General Counsel; and David Gulick, DHS U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Honolulu District director.

They will be discussing immigration laws and processes, immigration benefits, and investigation and prosecution of immigration related cases.

U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and NMI Alicia A.G. Limtiaco told *Saipan Tribune* that not one agency can address these type of issues by itself so they are working as a multi-disciplinary approach. She said they have invited people from law enforcement, victims services groups, social services, the medical community, faith-based organizations, and governmental and non-governmental organizations to take part in the training.

"We are also looking at Pacific regional approach to combating these crimes, including human trafficking. We have very unique challenges and issues given our locations [and] our limited resources," she said.

Limtiaco said it is very important for the Pacific island neighbors and communities to collaborate, work together and share resources in how to address human trafficking in the region.

With respect to hate crimes, Limtiaco said the conference is of particular importance here as there are tensions in the community between ethnic racial groups.

"It is very important that we get the public awareness raised about federal laws that exist to protect each and everyone of us against threats, assaults, and in most tragic of circumstances, being killed simply because of who a person is," she said.

Limtiaco said the Hate Crime Prevention Act, which was enacted in 2009, is intended to protect the human dignity of every person, protect them from being harmed or killed simply because of who they are.

"No person deserves being harmed or killed because of their national origin, because of their ethnicity, because of their culture, because of their religious affiliations or because of gender identity or sexual orientations," she said.

Limtiaco encouraged the community to report any violations or situations that are hate- or bias-motivated.

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The U.S. Military Services
INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Mariana Islands
Training and Testing (MITT) EIS/OEIS

The U.S. Navy is in the early stages of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to evaluate potential environmental effects associated with maintaining military readiness training and research, development, testing and evaluation activities ("training and testing activities") in the MITT Study Area. Community input is requested on the scope, environmental resources and local issues to address in the EIS/OEIS.

The military services request your input!

You can participate in a variety of ways:
• Visit www.mitt-eis.com to learn more, submit comments and link to resources about military training and testing activities.
• Mail written comments to the address below.
• Attend an open house scoping meeting and submit oral or written comments.

Let the services know what environmental factors should be considered in the preparation of the EIS/OEIS.

PROPOSED ACTION:
The Proposed Action is to conduct military readiness training and testing activities within the MITT Study Area. The MITT Study Area includes air, land and sea space in the existing Mariana Islands Range Complex (MIRC), additional areas on the high seas and a transit corridor where military training and testing activities may occur. The Proposed Action would support training and testing activities associated with new systems and force structure changes within the MITT Study Area to ensure critical military requirements are met. The EIS/OEIS will support applicable environmental reauthorizations, consultations and other associated environmental requirements for those training and testing activities. The MITT EIS/OEIS is the reevaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities reviewed in the MIRC EIS/OEIS, which the Navy completed with community input in 2010.

SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific
Attention: MITT EIS/OEIS Project Manager
258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100
Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134
Submit comments online at www.mitt-eis.com.
Comments must be postmarked or received online by Monday, Nov. 7, 2011.

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS
Open House: 5 to 8 p.m.

Guam:
Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011
University of Guam
Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building,
Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129
Mangilao, Guam 96923

Guam:
Friday, Sept. 23, 2011
Southern High School, Cafeteria
#1 Jose Perez Leon Guerrero Drive
Santa Rita, Guam 96915

Saipan:
Monday, Sept. 26, 2011
Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe
Saipan, MP 96950

Tinian:
Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2011
Tinian High School, Cafeteria
San Jose Village
Tinian, MP 96952

Rota:
Thursday, Sept. 29, 2011
Sinapalo Elementary School, Cafeteria
Sinapalo I, Songsong Village
Rota, MP 96951

For more information visit:
www.mitt-eis.com

Please take a moment to take this simple quiz:

Question #1:

True or False

1. Having diabetes isn't really a serious problem.

*False: "Diabetes causes more deaths every year than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke." *Source: American Diabetes Association

Why is there only one question on this quiz—do you really need any more?

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CNMI

From Page 1

and Lieto, were inside the vehicle."

Towai, along with Lieto and Jack, were members of the 100 Battalion, 442 Infantry Regime of the U.S. Army Reserve called to active duty in August 2004.

They left the CNMI for a one-year tour of duty in Iraq in January 2005, as part of the War on Terror spawned by the terror attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon on that fateful day of Sept. 11, 2001.

As the CNMI and the rest of the world marks the tenth anniversary of those terrorist attacks that forever changed the United States and the world, Towai also remembers his brothers-in-arms who paid the ultimate sacrifice to win the war.

Towai, a sergeant-at-arms in the CNMI House of Representatives, said the 9/11 anniversary always reminds him of Lieto, Jack, and 12 other men and women from the CNMI who lost their lives in the War on Terror.

"It's a sad day. But I always have this thought about all this: It's much better we fight them in their own soil than to fight them in our own backyard," Towai said of the U.S. response to those attacks.

The 47-year-old father of five said there are a lot of painful and sad things about the War on Terror but he said "it's much better we talk about it instead of keeping it bottled up inside."

Of his five children, one also serves in the U.S. Army and was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan.

For many, including Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, the world has become more safety-conscious after the 911 attacks.

"The U.S. is at war," the voice on the other end of the line said, recalls Inos when he received a phone call about the plane attacks in New York almost 10 years ago today.

When he turned on CNN, what greeted him were images of the planes hitting New York's Twin Towers and people jumping to their death to escape he burning buildings, another plane hitting and burning portions of the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and another plane crash in Pennsylvania—all the works of a terrorist network.

The attacks claimed the lives of 2,753 people from 70 different nations, including over 400 first responders in New York.

"It was kind of having this feeling that you don't know what's happening. You have all sorts of fear that the world is coming to an end. But as we received more information at the time, things became clearer," Inos said.

Besides the emotional toll of the attacks, there were also the negative impact on the nation's economy and the CNMI's was no different. Tourism arrivals further plunged, among other things.

"On the good side, it's kind of an awakening for us… After that, we were more vigilant about security issues, although many of us are still bothered by the fact that we have to go through all these [security screening at the airport]…But it's something that we had taken for granted for many years," he said.

Even with additional security measures, evil deeds still happen. "Imagine if we didn't step up security at the airports…" Inos said.

As the CNMI observes the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, Inos also salutes those innocent lives lost, the families who lost their loved ones, and those who fought in the War on Terror in different parts of the world.

"We sent many men and women to Iraq and Afghanistan and other places. They're still there," he said.

With beefed up security also came the federal grants and financial assistance related to homeland security that came the CNMI's way in the last 10 years.

Juan T. Dela Cruz, assistant chief of operations for the Commonwealth Ports Authority's Ports Police, was off-duty when he received the call 10 years ago about planes hitting New York and the Pentagon.

RULE

From Page 1

CW or an H visa status.

In the CNMI, the term "accountant" is used broadly, even for positions that are more for bookkeepers or cashiers, for example, and do not necessarily have at least a bachelor's degree in accounting.

And with an estimated 1,000 private domestic household workers who are not eligible for a CW status, some of them also include those working at hotels but are also called "maids" or "domestic helpers."

Only businesses, including manpower agencies, can hire aliens as caregivers and for other kinds of household work.

Moreover, while Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is pleased with the final rule published in the Sept. 7 Federal Register, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan is disappointed with it, saying it does not help U.S. citizens who need jobs.

United Workers Movement-NMI president Rabby Syed and Marian Aldan-Pierce of the Marianas Visitors Authority and DFS Saipan also raised concerns about the fate of immediate relatives of U.S. and FAS citizens.

These are among the people that the CNMI's nonvoting delegate to the U.S. Congress is trying to help with his pending H.R. 1466.

But the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services hopes that a closer review of the CW rule, as well as the question-and-answer sheet, would help ease many of these concerns.

David Gulick, district director for USCIS Honolulu District 26, urged the public yesterday to also go over the discussion of the comments submitted, which is part of the final rule.

Gulick went over the highlights of the final rule and answered a host of questions about the final rule during a news conference at the USCIS office in Garapan yesterday afternoon.

A foreign worker may be eligible for CW status if he is ineligible for a nonimmigrant or immigrant classification under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Gulick said that CNMI employers should by now already start applying for an H, L, or any other visas for their employees whom they believe won't qualify for a CW status.

Some employers in the CNMI have already started petitioning their professional employees for H, L, and other visas.

The number of CW visas available for fiscal year 2012 is capped at 22,416.

The CW visa classification is valid only in the CNMI and provides no basis for travel or work in any other part of the United States, except for Philippines nationals who may travel between the Philippines and the CNMI through the Guam airport.

The final rule also provides for the grant of derivative CW status to spouses and minor children of CW workers.

Only employers meeting certain requirements are eligible to petition for a CW worker. They include only those conducting a legitimate business, defined as a "real, active and operating" commercial or entrepreneurial undertaking, or is a governmental, charitable, or other validly recognized nonprofit entity.

These employers can only petition for a CW worker if they have already considered all available U.S. workers for the position.

Eligible employers have to file a Form I-129CW and pay a $325 fee for such form, and pay the mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 per beneficiary.

This also requires a biometric fee of $85 if the worker is located in the CNMI. This will be based on the employer and employee's agreement as to who will shoulder this cost.

Parole, advance parole

Syed said the UWM-NMI hopes that USCIS will continue to require the parole and advance parole for workers with CW status.

Gulick said those granted CW status will not have to apply for an advance parole (which costs $360) to be able to re-enter the CNMI.

However, these workers with CW status will have to secure a CW visa from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate from their country of origin, to be able to re-enter the CNMI after a vacation in a non-U.S. area.

There's no guarantee that even if a worker has been granted a CW status, he will also get a CW visa. The CW visa fee will have to be paid by the worker with CW status.

Syed said this is causing foreign workers to think twice about going on vacation, because they won't be able to return to the CNMI if their CW visa application is rejected, even if they have a legal job in the CNMI.

He said it would be worse for those who have to exit the CNMI because of an emergency back home.

Syed said that foreign workers would find it more convenient to secure an advance parole before temporarily exiting the CNMI, rather than try their luck with a CW visa application that may be rejected.

Gulick said USCIS will have more information later about the travel requirements for those who will be approved a CW status and wanting to travel for vacation from the CNMI to the U.S. mainland or Guam.

The USCIS official reiterated that there won't be mass deportation.

Foreign workers, however, who do not have jobs or who do not have employers by Nov. 27, 2011, could face deportation.

For more information about the CW final rule, visit http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=378603dca1042310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=68439c7755cb9010VgnVCM10000045f3d6a1RCRD.

A USCIS outreach team will be arriving in the CNMI to conduct presentations about the CW rule starting on Sept. 20. Those who want to request for sessions are urged to email the USCIS through Darlene Kutara at darlene.kutara@dhs.gov.

FORGET

From Page 1

"The anniversary of Sept. 11 is a day to remember those we lost and to stand with their families and loved ones. We pay tribute to the lives of those people who were taken from us and to reaffirm that their legacy is a safer and more resilient America," said Limtiaco at the commemoration ceremony of the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, held at the Seaside Hall of Saipan Grand Hotel.

Families of fallen soldiers, government officials, and other community members attended yesterday's solemn ceremony.

Limtiaco, in her remarks, said that "extraordinary and unprecedented efforts" have been taken by U.S. troops, law enforcers, and first responders following the Sept. 11 events. More than 2 million troops have been deployed more than 2.5 million times in war zones and these troops include "our generation of sons and daughters of the Pacific" who "have put forth a tremendous effort to ensure that all humanity is being protected around the world."

"The Sept. 11 generation have upheld the virtues of service, sacrifice, and selflessness that have always been the source of America's strength. As the beneficiaries of their service, we have a sacred duty to support all of our troops, military families, and veterans," said Limtiaco.

Limtiaco said the Pacific island communities are capable of withstanding whatever dangers may come and should draw on the resilience of the American people "to overcome the challenges of our time."

"We must also continue to draw strength from our diversity as a nation, including those from different races, ethnicities, cultures, and religions, as it is our diversity as a people and the strength that we gain from it that contributes to our resiliency as a nation during these challenging times," she added.

Simple tribute

During the ceremony, a video production depicting photographs of servicemen and women during their deployment and on their way home were presented to pay tribute to the 41 fallen heroes from the Pacific and to service members who continue to protect the nation's freedom and democracy.

Of the 41 fallen soldiers, nine are from CNMI, 20 from Guam, six from Pohnpei, three from Palau, and one each from Yap, Chuuk, and Majuro.

The presentation drew quiet sobs from family members of the seven soldiers who attended the ceremony.

Each family was given a flower to offer at an improvised memorial—which consisted of a soldier's hard hat, a rifle, boots, and black box—as the song *Fallen But Not Forgotten* was played.

Rosita Leon Guerrero Pangelinan, mother of Sgt. Brian S. Leon Guerrero of Guam, said the pain remains even after three years since his death. Leon Guerrero was in Afghanistan, his third deployment, when he died on July 10, 2008.

"A piece of my heart is gone with him and the pain and tears, it's always going to be there. It's going to be there forever," she said after the ceremony.

Pangelinan said she's very proud of her son, "our hero," and all the other fallen soldiers. She's thankful to the community for remembering them for their service to the country.

"I just hope and pray that those deployed soldiers now come home safely," she added.

FUND

From Page 1

the fact that transmission of the document was not made public until Tuesday. Whether it was signed Monday [which is a holiday] or Tuesday, we don't know. …We will be sending a letter to the administration to inquire on those issues and the validity of the signature on the said public law whether it was legitimate or not," said board chair Sixto Igisomar.

Because Fitial was reportedly back on island Monday night, trustees are concerned that the law might not be valid at all if the bill was actually signed Tuesday morning by the lieutenant governor.

"I understand the fact that there are still too many days left for the bill to be signed [Sept. 24]. Considering Monday was a holiday, the bottom line question here is, why the rush?" Igisomar said.

The bill passed both the House and Senate and was transmitted to the governor on Aug. 16. By law, the governor has 45 days—or until Sept. 24—to act on the bill. In case of a veto, the Legislature has 60 days to override it.

Donna Cruz, a retiree who also spoke at the meeting, also aired concern about the rushed approval of the measure. She asked the board to look into this before making any decision to challenge the law in court.

Contracts terminated

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez told the board that immediately after the law was signed, one of the Fund's money managers, Stralem & Company, gave a 30-day notice to terminate its contract, citing the negative effects of the new law.

Igisomar also disclosed that the contract for Blackstone Alternative Management will not push through, even though it is ready. The contract has a provision stating that if the beneficiary derivative bill becomes law, the contract will be considered self-terminated. Igisomar said he was about to sign the Blackstone contract on Tuesday when the bill was enacted.

Richmond Capital Management and the Fund's investment consultant, Wilshire Associates, have also sent feelers, Villagomez said, indicating their desire to terminate their contracts with the Fund for the same reason. He expects the remaining money managers to follow suit.

"We need to plan for this worst-case scenario," Villagomez said. "Obviously, whether this is valid or not…we're feeling the effects already."

The Fund will have a teleconference on Saturday with all its money managers and Wilshire to fully discuss the impact of the law.

Money managers must give a 30-day notice to terminate their contracts; Wilshire can terminate it anytime it wishes to do so.

The Fund disclosed that Wilshire is being paid $195,000 a year for its services. In case it decides to obtain insurance against lawsuits, this would result in $170,000 to $180,000 in additional expense.

It was earlier reported that Wilshire had been asked to stay on, with the condition that the Fund will challenge the new law in court.

Parents obtain TRO to stop OAG from conducting autopsy

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 15-year-old boy who attended a family member's funeral at Tanapag Cemetery on Aug. 31 fell from the back of a pickup truck and died the following day.

The Office of the Attorney General, however, is not releasing the body to the family from the Commonwealth Health Center's morgue until an autopsy is conducted.

The autopsy was set for last night, Thursday. This prompted Annjuliet Marie Lieto Lifoifoi and Joseph Lifoifoi, the boy's parents, to go to court to ask for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to bar the government from performing an autopsy and order the release of the body so they may lay him to rest.

The parents insist that their Refaluwash cultural beliefs will be violated if an autopsy is conducted on the child's body.

Superior Court associate judge David Wiseman heard the matter yesterday and granted the parents' motion for a TRO. He barred the government from performing any autopsy on the boy, Wilben Herman Lieto, and ordered the release of the body to the parents.

Wiseman ruled that falling from a truck is not such an unusual circumstance requiring an autopsy and the cause of death is readily ascertainable. He said it is undisputed that Wilben's death was caused by head injuries.

"There would be little hardship to the government in seeking the family members, doctors, and witnesses who can all provide evidence that the cause of death was injury to the head," Wiseman said.

Wiseman said the government's insistence on an autopsy places great hardships on a family that has suffered two losses in a short time span. "Immediate and irreparable injury will result if the burial customs and rituals of the family are interfered with and the scheduled funeral date is disturbed," he said.

A preliminary hearing will be held on the matter on Sept. 22, 2011.

In her declaration through counsels Viola Alepuyo and Braddock J. Huesman, Annjuliet Marie Lieto Lifoifoi said that Wilben, her eldest son, was with family members on Aug. 31 at the Tanapag Cemetery to attend her brother-in-law's funeral.

She said that Wilben, along with two other family members, were on the back of a pickup truck with plans to proceed to her parents' home in Tanapag.

As the truck, being driven by Mrs. Lifoifoi's cousin, moved along a pothole-filled dirt road at the cemetery, Wilben, who was sitting on the railing, leaned over the side to spit. The truck hit a hole on the ground, causing Wilben to fall and hit the road head first. He was rushed to the hospital where he was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit. Early morning the next day, Wilben died from internal injuries.

Mrs. Lifoifoi said that on Tuesday, Sept. 6, she learned for the first time from a staff at the OAG that her son's body could not be released because the OAG had scheduled an autopsy. Mrs. Lifoifoi told the OAG staff that she and her husband do not want their son's body to undergo an autopsy. She said they believe that the desecration of the body is against their Refaluwasch beliefs.

She said the same staff called her the next day, Wednesday, stating that with or without her consent, the OAG was going to perform the autopsy.

"My husband and I as well as our children and our very tight knit family have suffered so much pain and anguish over Wilben's death, which has now been heightened knowing the OAG is now planning to cut up our child's body," the mother said.

Alepuyo stated in her declaration that, after meeting with the parents, she contacted Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest, who advised her that the autopsy would be done on Thursday, Sept. 8, between 9pm and 9:30pm.

Alepuyo said that Ernest was relying on statute as the basis for ordering an autopsy without the family's consent since he needs to preserve evidence in the event the OAG decides to prosecute the driver with homicide by vehicle.

Alepuyo said she reviewed the statute, conducted research and concluded that an autopsy was not warranted. She emailed Ernest about her conclusion and notified him that if he insists on the autopsy, she will have no choice but to file court action. She pointed out that the family has made all the necessary arrangements, including cultural and religion funeral ceremonies for today, Friday.

At yesterday 11am hearing, Ernest, assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll and OAG's Civil Division chief Gilbert Birnbrich appeared for the government. Alepuyo and Huesman appeared for the parents.

Ernest told the court that the government intends to prosecute the driver.

In his ruling, Wiseman said that Wilben's death did not occur under conditions suggesting poisoning, violence, or unusual circumstances.

Wiseman said by all accounts it is settled that Wilben's cause of death was head trauma as a result of falling from the truck, resulting in a skull fracture.

The judge said that Ernest conceded at the hearing that it is not disputed that head trauma or skull fracture was the cause of death.

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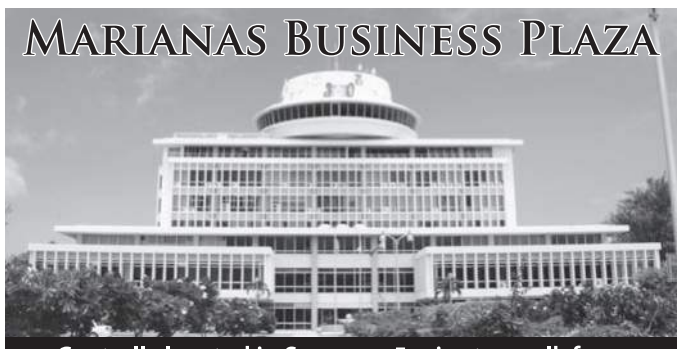

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Remembering 9/11, a decade later

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

As the nation marks the 10th commemoration of the Sept. 11 attacks, *Saipan Tribune* talks to several people about their thoughts on 9/11.

"I was just in the U.S. about a week before the 9/11 events took place. It was pretty scary. I can't believe that something like that would happen. It brought a lot of concern for the safety of the Americans throughout the world. People should learn to be more alert and cautious to prevent it from happening once more. Let us be mindful of what's going on around us. If you see something out of the ordinary, we should report it. Vigilance is highly encouraged following the Sept. 11 events. The victims and the soldiers that fight for freedom should also be remembered. We should pray for them. Prayers don't end in one day. Let's continue to pray for them and for their families. Let's pray that it wouldn't happen again."

DONALD G. FLORES,
Saipan mayor

"To have it happen in our nation and watch it all in the news, my reaction was of disbelief and shock. The 9/11 attacks set the stage for U.S. soldiers to play an active role in the security of our nation. I immediately sensed fear because my son, who is a reservist, went to the Army Reserve Office immediately after finding out about 9/11. I had to put on hold my feelings and emotions as a mother. I had to remember why he joined the Reserve in the first place, which is to serve his country."

FRANCES M. SABLAN,
Retired educator

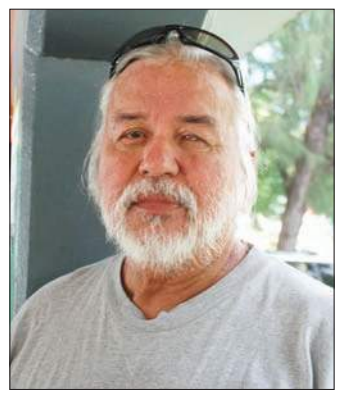
"I was working as a fourth grade teacher at William S. Reyes Elementary School at the time of the 9/11 attacks. I got up and saw it on television and the shock was just horrific and unbelievable. For a lot of the children in the CNMI who have never been to a big city, watching the Twin Towers crumble to the ground was like 'special effects' in a movie. It was hard for me to talk to my friends in the mainland because we had to wait for lines to get through. Later that summer, I visited Red Bank in New Jersey where I found out that there were six homes in one street that lost the men of their households. The events of 9/11, which heightened fear and precaution, also curtailed travel for all people. The lesson that should have been learned is trying to promote peace instead of violence. We're still at war; the war against terror has not abated. But we should remember it with hope for the future. There's no going back. We should try and prevent anything like that from every happening again with diplomacy and understanding."

SUSAN FISHMAN-TUDOR,
Park ranger

"I found it hard to believe and very unforgivable when I heard about the 9/11 attacks. Sept. 11 impacted most, if not all people—just like family—because of the manner it happened and the number of human casualties. Ten years since 9/11, the horrific tragedy still remains in people's minds. Sept. 11 taught us all how fragile life is. The tragic event demonstrated that different nationalities can become one to help and comfort each other and continue a peaceful future. These lessons should not be forgotten."

JAMES ULLOA,
Department of Labor staff

"I watched on television the footage of the 9/11 attacks. It didn't seem real that something of that nature would happen in our country. If there's one thing the tragic event reminded this powerful nation, it's overconfidence. It's a wakeup call for us all. We should always be prepared and expect the unexpected. It's a super tragedy for the U.S. itself because it's so-called freedom was breached. We should always thank God for our democracy and freedom. As members of the Catholic and Christian faith, let us say our prayers and hope that it will heal over time."



LUIS I. CAMACHO SR.,
Community leader

"I was a senior at Marianas High School when the 9/11 attacks occurred. My grandmother called me around 6am telling me that the U.S. was under attack, prompting me to check the news. I went to school and our English teacher discussed what happened in class and we were all sad about it. For me, the 9/11 attacks changed the whole outlook of our safety and security, how much we take for granted our freedom and those that protect and fight for it. We should always remember to keep them in our prayers, whether in big ceremonies or at home. We should be grateful to them for giving us and our children a safe and better future."

VINYCIA SEMAN,
executive secretary

"I had just started working at the Medsearch ward of CHC when it happened. There was a huge commotion at the waiting area where the TV was at. We didn't believe that act of terrorism at first. As we watched the footage, it felt like watching a scene from an action movie.

The 9/11 events served as a life lesson because we take life for granted. We've got to slow down, take time, give thanks, and learn how to appreciate life more. People, however, should not live in fear because of the tragedy. Instead, people should be more proactive and talk about the event as a life lesson. We should look at the incident in a different perspective, like a half-full glass and not half-empty. We can't keep dwelling in the past but we could take that lesson and move forward, hoping it would bring us more awareness and help build us as a community and as a nation."

TRINA LEE SABLAN,
Public Health nurse

"I would normally be asleep around the time the 9/11 attacks occurred because it's early morning in the CNMI. But for some reason, I just couldn't sleep and I was watching CNN at that time. I actually watched the second plane hit the building. I was horrified, just like everyone who watched that event. Everything that we knew to be true, everything we knew about safety and our loved ones could be turned just like that. If there's any lesson, it's about democracy and people who live in a free country or America take for granted people's ability to express themselves freely whether it's religion or politics. Most of the world, you can't do that freely. I think that this is a wakeup call for people all around the world that we need to all stand up for civil rights and human rights, something that the Red Cross has been doing for a very long time."

JOHN HIRSH,
American Red Cross NMI Chapter director

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Fitial appoints Charles Calvo to Civil Service

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed on Tuesday Charles M. Calvo to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission to represent Saipan.

Calvo's appointment requires the advice and consent of the Senate.

If confirmed by the Senate, Calvo will serve the unexpired term of Daniel H. Nielson which will expire on Jan. 9, 2013.

"The Lt. Gov. and I are confident that Mr. Calvo is qualified and will be an asset on this important Commission," Fitial said in a letter to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota).

The governor said copies of Calvo's resume, statement of financial interest, police clearance, drug test receipt and drug test result will be provided to the Senate as soon as they become available.

"We respectfully request your favorable action on this appointment," Fitial told the Senate president.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations, said yesterday that the panel will schedule public hearings on the governor's appointees after the fiscal year 2012 budget is passed.

"Right now, we're prioritizing the budget. We do not want another shutdown, so maybe we will have public hearings when we already have a budget," Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Senate EAGI Committee reviews the nominations and holds public hearings on nominations. It then recommends to the full Senate the confirmation or rejection of any appointee. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Farming and gardening the traditional way

The Inetnon Amot yan Kutturan Natibu/Mwiischil Safey me Kkoor Aramasal Faluw is offering free lessons on traditional farming and gardening at the Saipan Chamorro-Carolinian Village Cultural Centers Headquarters this Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011. Some medicinal plants will be given away for planting. All interested Chamorros and Carolinians are encouraged to attend. The lessons start at 9:30am to about 12pm.

This Saturday's activities at the Rota Chamorro Village Cultural Center (in the DCCA office compound) will be making the motsiyas food,and making aliling tulompu bracelet and pendant, coconut shell earring, making fly trap, and story telling. Activities on Rota start at 10:30am. Children and adults are invited.

These activities are offered by the Association of Native Medicine and Culture, in partnership with the Indigenous Affairs Office (Saipan) and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Office (Rota) and funded in part by the Administration for Native Americans. For more information, call 322-0278 on Saipan and 286-5562 on Rota. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 9, 2002

Atalig offers waiver for doctors who wear two hats

In an effort to address the compensation issue of medical doctors who also function as government officials, a ranking lawmaker has pre-filed a measure that would allow such doctors to elect which salary level they would receive. Sen. Ricardo S. Atalig said his measure would amend the exemptions to the Compensation Adjustment Act to resolve thorny questions over the salaries of Dr. James U. Hofschneider and Dr. Hocog so that medical doctors who also serve as either Public Health Secretary or DPH resident department head may elect to receive salaries as doctors and not the salary level assigned by law for Public Health secretaries and resident heads.

Manglona seeks a new deal

Stressing that solutions to the CNMI's problems can be found within, Rota Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona recently presented the CNMI government with a seven-point strategic plan that he calls "The New Deal," which seeks to rebuild the CNMI economy. The seven talking points he outlined in his letter to Gov. Juan N. Babauta and members of the Legislature was accompanied with three proposed legislation that he said support some of his arguments for expanding the Commonwealth's revenue base. Manglona stressed that his proposals are premised on the basic thought that the solutions to the CNMI's financial problems can be found at home. "We should look not to outsiders but to the insiders for financial solutions; we should look not to foreign experts but to our own domestic resources to frame recovery. We should look at our own ingenuity to revitalize the economy," he said.

Sept. 9, 2003

$156K contract for bolt repair signed

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has entered into a $156,000 contract with Singapore-based Man B&W to replace eight loose bolts on Engine 6 of CUC's main power plant in Lower Base. The contract, signed by the CUC and the Attorney General on June 10 and 11 respectively, and by the contractor on June 24, said that Man B&W-out of three bidders-submitted the lowest responsive bid. Earlier the CUC had sole-sourced another Singaporean company, Heatec. But contract discussions with Heatec were eventually dropped following criticisms on the firm's expertise in bolt replacement work.

CUC continues to buy power for Rota

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. continues to buy power from a private resort at $80,000 a month since May as a result of almost a yearlong delay in the purchase of an emergency transformer. CUC Rota resident director Thomas Manglona reported to the CUC board last week that the utility firm still gets electricity from Rota Resort and Country Club to service Feeder 3, which supplies up to 35 percent of the island customers. He said that "up to this date, we are still awaiting procurement of a 10-MVA substation emergency replacement transformer." The board approved the emergency procurement of the transformer in December last year.

Sept. 9, 2005

Adriano says Senate will pass surcharge subsidy

Senate President Joaquin G. Adriano said the House-approved fuel surcharge subsidy proposal will pass the upper chamber shortly. "We will pass that bill to help remove some of the burden off the people in paying the fuel surcharge," said Adriano yesterday. The senator attended yesterday's press conference on the current power crisis, which was held at the Multi-Purpose Hall in Susupe. It was hosted by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the Executive Branch.

'SPED teachers not exempt from PRAXIS requirement'

Special Education teachers are not exempt from taking PRAXIS I and II as the exams are part and parcel of the Board of Education's continuing effort to achieve "highly qualified teachers" in the CNMI. Special Education coordinator Joanne Nicholls said the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001's definition of "highly qualified teacher" requires even special education teachers to take PRAXIS as part of their certification. PSS associate commissioner for administrative services David M. Borja said SPED teachers must also satisfy the HQT requirement for CNMI public school teachers. Initially, PRAXIS I was a requirement for the teachers, Borja said, but if they are teaching a specific subject content area, then they must also take and pass PRAXIS II.

Retirees group wants Fund's lawsuit moved to federal court

The Commonwealth Retirement Association wants the NMI Retirement Fund's lawsuit against the CNMI government to be removed from the Superior Court and transferred to the federal court.

CRA, through its board member Sapuro Rayphand, filed yesterday a notice of removal in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Rayphand as intervenor in the case stated that it has been more than two years now since Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo rendered a $230 million judgment in the case.

Since then, there has been little, if any, meaningful steps toward enforcement of that judgment, Rayphand said.

The Fund filed the lawsuit in 2006 against the government, Gov. Benigno Fitial, Department of Finance, and then Finance Secretary Eloy Inos over the government's failure to remit required payments.

In June 2009, Govendo ruled that the government owes the Fund $231.6 million in damages and that the law suspending government contributions to the Fund is unconstitutional.

In February 2011, the damages of the Fund reportedly increased to $317 million from the original $231 million. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FBI forensic accountant to testify

» In trial couple who allegedly defrauded PH bank

The U.S. government is planning to introduce the expert testimony of the FBI's forensic accountant during the trial of a couple who were indicted for their role in an alleged conspiracy to defraud a Philippine bank of approximately $109,855.

Assistant U.S. attorney Beverly R. McCallum filed the U.S. government's notice in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday, stating the prosecution's intent to introduce the expert testimony of Andriana Schreff at the trial of Ana Maria V. Villegas and Haydn L. Villegas.

McCallum said that Schreff is expected to provide testimony relating to financial records from the years 2004 through 2005, including business records of Haydn and Ana Villegas; Philippine Express Remittance; Philippine National Bank; and the latter's subsidiary, PNB Corp., doing business in the CNMI as PNB Foreign Exchange.

She said that Schreff is also expected to opine that the alleged co-conspirators intentionally devised and executed financial transactions to defraud Philippine National Bank.

According to the indictments, the scheme began in November 2004 when the Villegas couple, then co-owners of Philippine Express Remittance, started passing checks drawn on insufficient funds at PNB Express, at that time a subsidiary of Philippine National Bank. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 6th birthday to Parveen P. Mingefiiy! There's a prayer within my heart today, that God will richly bless your birthday, each day and all year with joy and happiness. We Love you and may God bless you! Greetings come from Mom, Dad, Nathan, and the entire family.

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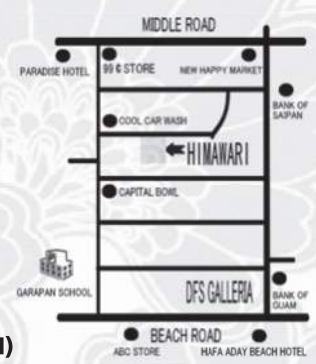

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Opinion

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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Solution to obesity is everything in moderation

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You can plant supermarkets in nutritionally challenged neighborhoods—in any neighborhoods, really—but you can't make people love healthier fare like spinach (or broccoli). Many say the hell with it.

Problem One: Fresh fruits and vegetables can be pricey compared to Big Macs.

Problem Two: Supermarkets brim with choices every bit as fattening as a 930-calorie Wendy's Baconator Double.

Problem Three: People of all income levels develop bad eating habits that are hard to break.

The upshot: Despite decades of educating, chiding and warning Americans that they need to eat healthier, many people don't.

Only 26 percent of the nation's adults eat vegetables three or more times a day, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says. Vegetable consumption totals are far short of what public health officials had hoped to achieve. (Smothering that broccoli in Velveeta doesn't count as eating a vegetable in our book.)

Yes, we love the wondrous convenience of salads washed and ready in a handy bag. But still, the average American eats a salad at mealtime only about 36 times a year, *The Wall Street Journal* reports. How short-sighted.

Our take is that government campaigns won't get many people to eat healthy. The current arsenal, heavy on hectoring Americans, isn't working.

We instead suggest some reality-based thinking from the eat-your-spinach-or-else school of public health.

First, baby steps. We need to start chipping away at America's obesity epidemic, one Triple Double Oreo (about 100 calories per cookie) at a time. We must waddle before we can waddle a little more briskly.

Health advocates, accept the bitter truth: Americans—people—like to eat tasty stuff that is not good for them. The prospect of living longer in the future can't compete with the prospect of creamy Key lime pie right now.

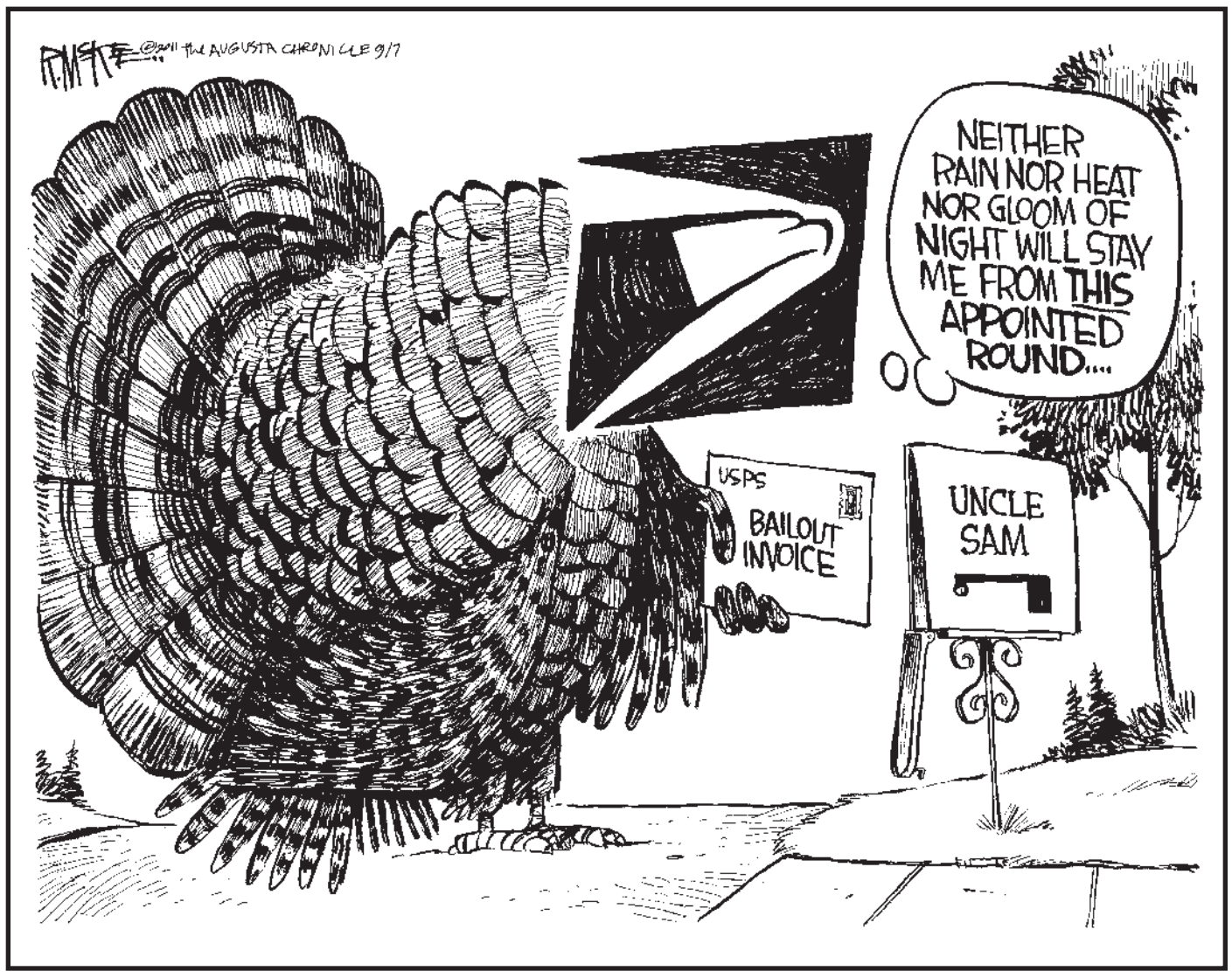
Preaching abstinence won't work. Nor will posting calorie counts on menus, handy as those are. People with a twinging conscience will gobble the 540-calorie KFC Double Down with a Diet Coke.

Some flashy marketing could help. Last year, the baby carrot industry launched a $25 million ad campaign. The concept: "Baby carrots. Eat 'em like junk food." The ads are edgy, replete with over-the-top sexual innuendo, thundering graphics, a woman firing carrots like bullets and a heavy metal sound track.

Brilliant. Instead of being the antidote to junk food, carrots are the new Cheetos! Amazingly, it seems to be working. Sales rose 10 to 13 percent in test markets in the final months of 2010 compared to a year earlier.

The next hurdle for marketers is peer pressure. Face it, people who eat healthily tend to irritate those who don't. Munching on a salmon burger at lunch brings hoots of derision from pizza-snarfing colleagues about diets and, hint hint, extreme health food fanatics.

The Federal Food Nannies covet a world without Hardee's 1,320-calorie Monster Thickburger to tempt people. We disagree. The solution, as far as we can tell, is what Mom always said: Portion control. Everything in moderation. Don't eat if you're not hungry.


©2011 THE AUGUSTA CHRONICLE 9/7
NEITHER RAIN NOR HEAT NOR GLOOM OF NIGHT WILL STAY ME FROM THIS APPOINTED ROUND....
USPS
BAILOUT INVOICE
UNCLE SAM

ML King's Memorial opens

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

The "I have a dream" speech is included among literary materials I share with my Oral English class in China. It appears that students latching on the phrase "let freedom ring" in their vocabulary are not unfamiliar with the Southern Baptist minister's speech before the throng of the Civil Rights March in Washington, D.C. of August 1963.

One of the Chinese songs I appropriated earlier this year is titled *The Butterfly* with an English version sang by the same artist. The class emphasis is for students to speak English more rather than memorizing facts about oral English. I play the English version of the butterfly song in class, ask class members to write the words they hear, ignoring spelling and grammar, and then repeat the song they heard. Already familiar with the tune in Chinese, the segue to English does not take much effort.

In Sino symbology, the butterfly represents dreaming, not the idle and escapist kind but of the type where one is compelled to translate reflection to a "therefore" and then do it. A student asked if he made a right career choice in his academic course and I turned the question back to his view of the three most important issues of his generation. I added: "If your academic choice does not address any of those issues, then you need to decide again, and make your academic life relevant to your chosen career."

Martin Luther King Jr.'s dreaming was not idle. Nor is the dreaming in the Sino metaphor used in Shenyang Aerospace University where the English prospectus boldly declares: *Dreams are rising from SAU*. There is nothing fuzzy about Premier Wen Jiabao speech's in the Peoples Congress early this year about putting a man in the moon by 2030.

We are familiar with the post-splitting-of-the-atom comments by those who contributed to the research, of their dismay at how knowledge was turned into the most devastating instrument of mass destruction in humanity' arsenal of deadly folly. The rush in our time to use new pharmacological discoveries and nutrient additives is proving to have grave consequences in side effects of chemical intrusions into our body metabolisms.

The National Mall by the Potomac where the nation's memorial parks, museums, and art galleries are situated is dotted with memorials to individuals—Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Jackson, Grant, Garfield, Jackson, etc.—along with the WWII, Korean and Vietnam wars. Now comes MLK of the Civil Rights movement on a few acres on line sight between the Lincoln and Jefferson memorials.

Opened a week before the formal ceremonies on Aug. 28, the date of the "I have a dream" speech, the solemn occasion slated to commemorate the historic speech was upended by ferocious Hurricane Irene, which just prolonged the controversies that dog the memory of the only person of color memorialized in the National Mall.

As a young man, we marched in Washington, D.C. with Dr. King when it became obvious to the Civil Rights movement that the practical issue of supporting the War on Poverty suffers when one also waged a war of attrition in Southeast Asia, as has been true with other subsequent wars.

There will be those who will focus intensely, and sometimes solely, on MLK's work on the racial issue but we followed him because he elevated his cause to the fundamental and broader arena of human right's issue.

Our work through the years validated this inescapable reality, that one window of human issue is useful only to the degree that it leads us to see the totality of issues, and invites us to design comprehensive but strategic and tactical responses to them.

We once dealt with *schistosomiasis/bilharzia/*snail fever caused by a parasitic worm in drinking water victimizing vulnerable children. When we lowered the infant mortality, it became obvious that surviving children's adequate sustenance into adulthood, education, productive engagement in the economy, meaningful significance of individual and social life took relevance and urgency. Mothers' roles and fathers' participation involved a deluge of issues as well. A segmented approach bureau-by-bureau, as the public sector in the factory-line-model is structured to work, is doomed to failure. Nothing but a comprehensive vision and mission that involve all the stakeholders and all issues addressed simultaneously will do.

That to me, this is MLK, Jr.'s realization when he took the podium in Memphis and declared in the metaphors of his tradition that he has "been to the mountaintop." He became lucid that racism does not only enslave one group, it diminishes the humanity of all. The same holds true when we insist on unsustainable economics that exploits labor and devastates the environment to raise the bottom line, of politics that permits only the few to decide on behalf of the many, and of cultural forms that locates the focus of existence in an escapist Other World, or of racial purity, or ethnic superiority, rather than in the immediacy, immanent, transcendent and transparent here-and-now.

Memorializing his memory is a challenge to our vocation. The King is dead! MLK, Jr. is here. Long live the King!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Quality?

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.

If you keep an ear open to both sides of the Pacific you'll notice that the term "quality" gets tossed around like a stray sheet of paper in a typhoon. It's everywhere and nowhere at the same time. I want to boil this down to Saipan's tourism and business situation, but I'm taking a more general cut at things today.

Anyway, everybody agrees that "quality" is good. But I don't see much agreement beyond that.

Ah, quality. What is it? Well, let's ask this: Which is a higher-quality car, Toyota or Mercedes?

I'm not interested in actually comparing these cars. I'm just interested in the popular conception of them, so they can serve as labels for the sake of discussion. And, no sour grapes here, I like both brands.

Popular opinion would hold that Toyotas are more reliable and have lower repair costs, which, to the consumer, defines the mechanical benchmark of quality.

So when you say "Toyota is a quality car," everybody knows what you mean. That's why people buy so many Toyotas.

And yet some people will pay more, often a lot more, to buy a Mercedes.

Why?

We know why. The Mercedes has, well, certain qualities. Yikes, there's that Q-word again, but now it doesn't mean what it meant the first time around. This time, we mean the car has high performance, nice creature comforts, and is perceived as solid and safe.

So, again, I ask: Which is the higher-quality car? Well, that falls sort of flat now, doesn't it? A more meaningful query would be, "Which characteristics do you want in a car, and what are you willing to give up to get them?"

Now we're up against a mixed bag of tradeoffs. We're talking the brute realities of optimization now. This is what economists call "constrained optimization," and the main constraint in this case would be (for most people) costs.

Some people just want what is cheapest to buy, or, in the car context, want the lowest possible monthly payment. These are "price shoppers." Quality often doesn't matter at all here: if it will roll off the lot, some people will buy it.

Other buyers want what is cheapest to buy and operate. They're willing to pay more for the up front purchase if they expect that the down stream ownership costs (insurance, fuel, repairs, etc.) will be sufficiently lower in the long run. Mechanical quality is, of course, an important element in these expected costs.

Still other buyers will pay due heed to the cost angle, but are willing to pay a premium for comfort, style, or various intangibles, which are other aspects of "quality."

And still other people are willing to pay more, maybe a lot more, to drive highly-engineered, structurally-robust cars if they perceive them to be safer, so I guess we can call these "safety shoppers."

We could slice things into more categories, but why bother? Point made: Different shoppers place different premiums on quality, and, furthermore, different shoppers will define quality in different ways. You can pick any good or service to see some or all of the same factors: shoes, food, dentistry, whatever.

In various industries, in various jobs, I've dealt with the entire spectrum, from where quality wasn't a decision driver at all, to where it was one decision driver, to where it was the primary decision driver.

I once authored a survey and a related study for a U.S. firm that sold exclusively to price-shoppers. And there was no ambiguity on that note, you'd only be in one of those stores if you were looking for cheap, and I do mean "cheap" in all senses of the word. (I'm not deriding cheap. You should see what we ate and drank in college; then again, maybe you shouldn't.)

Here's the interesting thing: On my survey the vast majority of the customers chose "quality" as more important than "price" for the stuff at issue. However, they had just spent their money in the opposite way. Why? My take is that "quality" is a desirable trait, and people want to be associated with it. It's a warm fuzzy. So everybody is for it until it's time to pay up, at which point the market stratifies into its meaningful components.

Ah, now we're getting somewhere. When I say "meaningful components," I mean situations where cash is changing hands. Which means, for you business owners or investors out there, profits.

And on that note, there are big changes brewing in the Asia-Pacific realm. I think the conventional wisdom in this realm is totally wrong. Therefore, epic failures, and big successes, are on the way. Stay tuned.

Letters to the Editor

Harassment, trespassing, disturbing the peace, invasion of privacy

Upon arriving home from work at approximately 4:40pm on Aug. 2, 2011, there were two adult men, including our tenant, installing a video surveillance system. Our tenant's directive to one of the men was to focus the camera onto our personal property where my family resides. It has also been noted by our family residents on numerous occasions where our tenant enters our premises, not for the purpose of entering or exiting his side of the property but to take pictures of our residence, our family, including the children, parking space, storage space, and personal belongings. This occurs both during daylight and evening. Permission to do such things was not given and when asked why, he angrily replies that it is for evidence against us.

Such breach into our property is suspicious as we have recently been broken into and had some items stolen. Smaller items have also been missing since then, including a registered dog. For the 15-plus years that we have been on this property, a theft hasn't ever occurred until these recent trespasses. On one occasion, upon confronting our tenant because he was verbally harassing my family member and disturbing our peace, he stated that he had pictures that will be used as evidence against us. With other matters that were involved, in addition to that breach in privacy, e.g. the parking space complaint, DPS was called. The police told our tenant that the complaint in question was a civil matter and they could not be involved.

Throughout the months, several other people claiming to be government agency employees, including our tenant and his local representative/consultant (that's how he refers to them as if they were without names) have been found walking around our premises and the adjacent property. No permission was ever asked of us nor permission to do such was ever granted. These people seem to be scouting the property, surveying, in addition to taking pictures for who knows what grounds. We have not received anything in writing from these so-called government employees. This trespass and local connection that some people in the CNMI government take part of has got to cease immediately! Peace is being extricated from us. This is a serious disturbance that should not be mistaken for mere annoyance.

On Aug. 2, 2011, when asked why his newly installed surveillance camera is focused directly at our property, again he replies that it is for evidence against us. We have asked verbally and by email for this unnecessary surveillance on our family and the children to cease. It is now September and there are even more cameras now than in August.

I would like to state that:

1) My family and I are not doing anything illegal nor conducting any illegal activities nor hiding anything illegal, therefore, surveillance cameras directed at us and our belongings breach our right to privacy.

2) Safety is an issue as children are involved. Implementing security measures in order to safeguard the life, safety and well-being of residents is something we would allow with permission as we are the property owners. The people our tenant has been allowing to enter our property do not have our permission nor have notified us of their intent to survey and use surveillance. This is trespassing and a breach of our right to keep our family and our belongings safe.

3) Evidence—as our tenant calls them—that are used by our tenant and those who trespassed and took surveillance without our permission needs to be confiscated for review, providing a copy to us to make sure it is not nor will it be used inappropriately to harm one physically, financially, mentally, or socially. And hopefully they will be destroyed and disposed of.

There is a question as to the point at which these surveillance systems become more and more invasive and what inappropriate activities will this surveillance be used for. The general rule is that law-abiding citizens are entitled to use and enjoy their homes without unreasonable interference or annoyance. Our tenant has brought much interference and annoyance since he started renting our property. We simply try to live peacefully without complaint and engagement with him but there's so much that one can take. I am highly concerned because this tenant has been taking pictures and video of the children. These are minor children that are my family members. With news headlines of immoral acts done to children, it makes me wonder what use these pictures and video of the kids will be used for. Are they selling these or are they streaming this online too? If they are, this is a tort or civil wrong. Isn't this non-consensual family/children photography video surveillance a form of intentional intrusion into our private life or affairs?

One tries not to think negatively but one must be cautious as well. We would like to take measures to prevent this breach of privacy, disturbance of the peace, trespassing, and unauthorized surveillance. We can no longer tolerate our tenant's conduct, which interferes with, disturbs, or is intended to interfere with or disturb our privacy, our comfort, our peace, and quiet enjoyment. I seek your assistance and direction to the appropriate authorities and agencies that can help us.

P.S. I have removed personal or identifiable information in this letter for purposes of not being even more harassed by this so-called tenant.

Jeaniffer H. Cubangbang
As Terlaje, Saipan

Critical issues and challenges

The current economic situation has affected the Office on Aging in that austerity measures were implemented at the center. They have been in effect since the beginning of the fiscal year and it was not until last week that they were finally lifted. During the time of austerity, the staff worked only 64 hours per week. As a result, clients lost valuable time at the center as they were not permitted to enter during austerity hours. Now that the measure was lifted, the office staff is back to an 80-hour workweek. The clients now receive the full benefits of the Aging Center as it is now open Monday to Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm.

The Office on Aging provides various services to their clients, including transportation, food, and daily activities. Clients may partake in any activity as they please while benefiting from the breakfast and lunch served at the center. Clients are also able to run errands as needed. Transportation for errands is provided by the Office on Aging.

Elderly Abuse: If I was an advocate for the elderly I would want to see them become more independent. Outreach programs at the center are vital for self-sufficiency as clients will learn exactly how to get the help they need. Legal services are currently offered when needed. However, more programs to help clients become self-sufficient are essential. Trainings for the office staff are important as well. Staff should be trained on how to properly care for clients during their time at the center. They should be able to assist them in obtaining the services they desire, whether it is legal, health, transportation, etc., while maintaining privacy at all times. Lastly, having healthier, more active clients is a significant goal of the aging center. Healthier meals and more activities will prove beneficial for the clients.

Teddy Guiao
Navy Hill, Saipan

Creative thinking needed

The news article demonstrating the plight of the Northern Mariana Housing Corp. headache relative to outstanding delinquent loans to date and how it is positioning to auction some of the properties is a sign of the times. Somehow, it seems that extending or increasing the term of the mortgage of the troubled loans is the key, not a reduction in the interest rate. So if the NMHC board is really serious about helping out these unfortunate bunch of homeowners that are sandwiched between a rock and a hard place, this would require thinking outside the usual box. The simple solution to all this is a change in the term of the mortgage. A 40-year term mortgage is not unusual at all, but certainly it would require some creative thinking to make it happen.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. West winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. West winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°

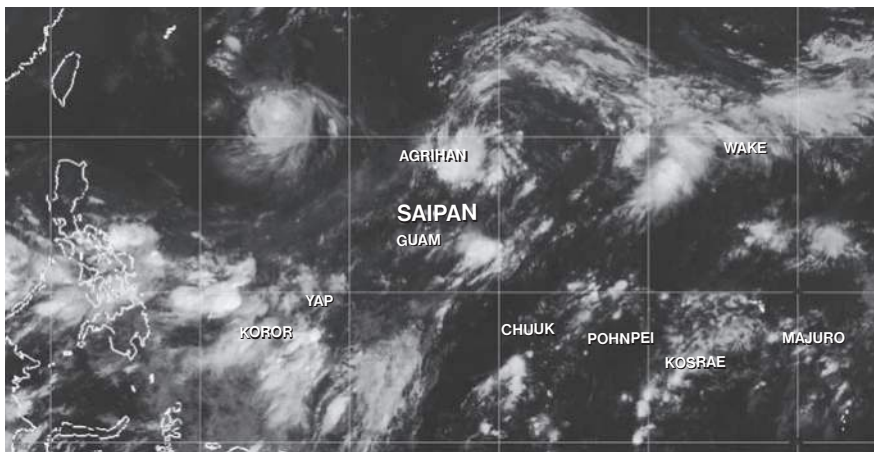
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Rain	▲85	▼78
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼73
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Majuro	Rain	▲83	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼48
Beijing	Showers	▲69	▼61
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲89	▼82
Honolulu	Sunny	▲87	▼75
London	Showers	▲71	▼62
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲82	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲57	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Thundershowers	▲82	▼68
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲88	▼76
Paris	Showers	▲83	▼59
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲78	▼71
Rome	Sunny	▲87	▼66
Salem	Sunny	▲91	▼58
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼60
Seoul	Cloudy	▲80	▼64
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼76
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲84	▼70

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Kalup (17W) is centered well northwest of the Marianas in the Philippine sea near 23N136E. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found primarily south of the circulation center between 23N and 20N from 133E to 138E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located north of Kalup within 40 miles of a line from 23N134E to 25N136E. For more information on Tropical Storm 17W, refer to advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM and bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. A weak circulation centered northeast of the Marianas near 21N150E is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 24N and 19N from 146E to 152E. A monsoon trough runs southwestward from 21N160E to 10N144E then turns southward to end at EQ143E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring south of Guam between 10N and 5N from 143E to 148E and northeast of the Marianas within 80 miles of a line from 13N153E to 21N162E. Converging west winds are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Koror and Yap between 11N and 5N from 131E to 141E. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 3N164E to 9N170E. Another trade-wind disturbance is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms to develop north of the Marshall Islands within 70 miles of a line from 14N167E to 13N174E. An upper-level low centered north 25N168E is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Wake Island between 23N and 16N from 165E to 169E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:36 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
11:49 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
6:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Monday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Tuesday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:09 PM	3:11 AM
Saturday	4:49 PM	4:02 AM
Sunday	5:27 PM	4:51 AM
Monday	6:04 PM	5:39 AM
Tuesday	6:40 PM	6:26 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 24, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09314	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09315	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C09315	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	4
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX
0Z604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	9:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C09315	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C09314	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C09314	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C09316	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	3, 4, 7
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
0Z120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:45am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
0Z120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
0Z704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0190/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
C0192/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C0184/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:25am	5, via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
0Z750/603	1:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
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- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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Amigo Pizza's daily lunch special joins lineup of great deals

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Amigo Pizza has added exciting deals to their menu, including a daily special lunch that costs just $4.99 and consists of three large slices of pizza and a can of soda.

WHAT'S COOKING!

Manager Moon Jeong Yum said the pizza flavors for the lunch special will vary each day, including pepperoni and sausage, Hawaiian, chicken with vegetables, double pepperoni, beef with vegetables, and pepperoni with mushroom.

"Our lunch special is perfect for pizza lovers and it's really affordable," Moon said.

Amigo Pizza also has ongoing deals for their two-topping pizzas. Two medium boxes are only $20.99, two large boxes are $25.99, and four large boxes are just $49.99.

"We encourage those who haven't tasted our pizza to try it because it's not oily or salty and we make new dough every day so it's guaranteed fresh all the time," said Moon.

Amigo Pizza has also started serving homemade Baked Chicken Wings that Moon said is flavorful yet healthy because it's not deep fried.

"A lot of our customers were asking for more items in our menu and we came up with our version of Baked Chicken Wings. I know many people love chicken wings so we prepared it in a way that can be both healthy and delicious," said Moon.

The Baked Chicken Wings comes in two sizes. An order of 10 pieces comes with two free pieces and costs only $7.99. An order of 20 pieces has four free wings and is priced at $13.99. Amigo also has two dipping sauces: sweet 'n' spicy and ranch.

Amigo Pizza accepts reservations for meetings, birthday parties, or any occasion and can accommodate 30 to 35 persons, making it the ideal venue for small celebrations or gatherings.

"For parties, we have the 'Big Deal' for only $109.99 and that already includes 10 boxes of pizza, 60 pieces of chicken wings, spaghetti, and a choice between macaroni or vegetable salad," said Moon.

Meetings or party reservations should be made at least a day in advance.

Visit Amigo Pizza next to Naked Fish along Beach Road in Garapan. They're open Monday to Saturday, from 10:30am to 10pm, and on Sunday, from 11:30am to 10pm. Major credit cards are accepted. They also do delivery with a minimum fee of $2.50. For more information, call 233-7412.

CLARISSA DAVID
Amigo Pizza's Baked Chicken Wings come with two dipping sauces: sweet 'n' spicy and ranch.

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Kilili disappointed with transitional worker regulations

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan expressed disappointment with the transitional worker regulations issued yesterday, saying they do not help U.S. citizens who need jobs.

He concedes that there is still a need for foreign workers in the Northern Marianas but said he doesn't see a need for 22,417—an increase of 6,159 workers—especially with the continuing high unemployment among U.S. citizens on the islands.

"The regulations were supposed to begin phasing out nonresident workers to encourage businesses to hire U.S. citizen residents," said Sablan. "I am heartbroken thinking of people who need jobs to support their families. Yet they will continue to face competition for the few jobs we have from nonresidents who are often willing to work for less."

"I recognize that there is a need for U.S. citizen workers to be trained in the skills our businesses need; and I will continue to advocate for that training. But I cannot believe that the Department of Homeland Security would suggest that there is no need for a coherent program to implement the phase-out in the number of foreign workers in the Northern Marianas.

"The Consolidated Natural Resources Act mandates a reduction in our reliance on foreign workers and mandates a federal effort to fill the labor force with local workers. I am committed to this and will continue to fight to ensure that this ultimate goal is achieved," Sablan added.

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which gave the federal government control of immigration in the Northern Marianas, aimed to phase out nonresident workers and provide more opportunities for locals to work. The phase-out is supposed to occur over a five-year period ending in 2014.

Yesterday's regulations were expected to implement the phase-out, while still assuring enough nonresident workers to keep the economy going. Instead, Sablan said the regulations permit 22,417 foreign workers, even though the Department of Interior estimated in 2009 that there were only 16,258 foreign workers in the NMI.

"It is difficult to interpret permits for an additional 6,159 workers as a phase-out," he said.

"Of course, the regulations do provide some certainty to business and to nonresident workers now in the Marianas. That is a good thing. But there is nothing in these regulations to encourage businesses to begin replacing nonresident workers with U.S. citizens, which should really be the goal."

Sablan said he would continue to encourage the Department of Homeland Security and local businesses to work together to reduce dependence on foreign workers. ***(PR)***

...calls for minute of silence on 9/11

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan invites everyone in the Northern Mariana Islands community to observe a minute of silence in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the tragic loss of life that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001, and in memory of the lives lost in the war against terrorists that followed.

"Please join me in observing a moment of silence at 10:46pm Chamorro Standard Time on Sept. 11, 2011, the 10th anniversary of the minute that terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 11 into the World Trade Center's North Tower in New York City. This act and the subsequent attack on the South Tower and on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and the downing of United Airlines Flight 93 near Shanksville, PA, eventually claimed the lives of 2,753 people from 70 different nations, including over 400 first responders in New York.

"Many of us in the Marianas still vividly recall the images of these events, half a world away, as they unfolded before us on our television screens. Whether near or far from the attacks, our lives as Americans were forever changed. We live now constrained by new security cautions. But we live, too, newly inspired by the heroism and dedication of our countrymen, who on that day turned to help each other escape from danger, rushed directly into the inferno to pull strangers to safety, or thwarted the terrorist attackers.

"We live, too, with the continuing pain of loss of 14 of our sons and daughters of the Northern Mariana Islands, young people who answered their country's call and took up arms against terrorism. In that minute of silence on Sunday, 9/11, let us especially remember their names and the prayer for the welfare of the families they left behind: Army Sgt. Yihjyh 'Eddie' L. Chen, Army SSgt. Wilgene T. Lieto, Army SPC Derence W. Jack, Army Sgt. Jesse J. Castro, Marine LCpl Adam Q. Emul, Army SPC Leeroy A. Camacho, Army PFC John D. Flores, Army PFC Victor M. Fontanilla, Army SPC Joe G. Charfauros Jr., Navy Seaman Anamarie SanNicolas Camacho, Army Sgt. Brian S. Leon Guerrero, Army Sgt. Julian F. Manglona, Air Force SrA Audra P.M. Winkfield, and Marine Cpl Dave M. Santos.

"May we never forget those we have lost, or those still risking their lives in service to their country." ***(PR)***

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Slight increase in PSS meal vendor reimbursement OK'd

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Meal vendors servicing public schools on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian will receive a slight adjustment in their reimbursement after the Board of Education approved a 5-cent increase in lunch prices effective this school year.

Public School System federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh described the adjustment as "a modest increase" in consideration of the rise in fuel costs and other commodities.

"It's the most we could do, given the amount of money that the program [Food and Nutrition Services] received in federal grants and reimbursement," Thornburgh said.

For fiscal year 2012, the U.S. Department of Agriculture gave PSS $9.52 million in Nutrition Assistance Program grant. This is an increase of about $500,000 compared to the $9 million assistance provided in fiscal year 2011.

The meal program includes breakfast, lunch, and snacks for 13,300 students in 20 public schools; students in 32 private schools; and kids enrolled in 10 Head Start centers. Over four million meals will be distributed to schoolchildren this new school year.

According to Dale Roberts, PSS food and nutrition program manager, current lunch prices for Saipan schools are: $2.15, Head Start; $2.85, elementary schools; and $3.40, high schools. These lunch meal prices will go up by 5 cents each.

The same 5-cent increase will be accorded meal vendors for Rota and Tinian schools, which have slightly higher meal costs.

As of yesterday, Roberts said his office has yet to be notified about the board's decision but assured that the adjustment will take effect retroactively once the board approves the increase.

PSS has seven meal vendors: Herman's Bakery, Barny's Pizza, LSG Sky Chef, Auntie Mag's, MV Reyes, Kalayaan, and Songao Enterprises.

Although PSS remains without a nutritionist, Roberts assured that the vacancy is not impacting the program's operation. He said the new school year's menu was finalized and prepared even before former nutritionist Hee Jae Lee resigned in July.

Roberts revealed that about 75 to 80 percent of the menu this school year is similar to the previous year's.

SHEFA to run after default scholars and make them pay

To ensure the program's continuity in this fiscally challenging time, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance will be going after scholars who have defaulted on their promise to return to the CNMI after finishing college.

According to administrator Henry Hofschneider yesterday, his administration will make this its priority in the new fiscal year, which starts in October.

All SHEFA scholars sign a promissory note and memorandum of agreement that in the event they do not come back and fulfill their obligation to work on Saipan after their studies or if they did not finish the courses they were supposed to complete, all financial assistance they received from SHEFA will be converted to loans and must be repaid.

"Under the regulation, the grant can be converted into a loan with or without the recipient's consent and this is clearly stipulated in the promissory note they signed with us. So if they don't come back and fulfill that promise, we need to convert those grants to a loan that they need to pay SHEFA," Hofschneider said.

He disclosed that since the program started in 2004, a total of $17.7 million has been invested in hundreds of scholars through grant-in-aid, field of study, and incentive awards. From May 2006 through December 2010, however, default scholars have only paid about $13,577, based on Finance Department records, Hofschneider said.

Regulations give scholars 90 days to inform SHEFA after the completion of their studies.

Hofschneider admits, however, that SHEFA has no way of tracking down default scholars but promised that his office will start looking for them in October. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

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CNMI Transitional Worker Classification

On Sept. 7, 2011, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services published a final rule that establishes a Transitional Worker nonimmigrant visa classification, CW, for foreign workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The CW visa classification is in effect while the CNMI foreign worker permit system transitions to U.S. immigration law. During this transition period, employers of nonimmigrant workers who are ineligible for other employment-based nonimmigrant visa classifications can apply for temporary permission to employ workers in the CNMI under the CW classification. The transition period formally began on Nov. 28, 2009, and will end on Dec. 31, 2014.

The Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, Public Law 110-229, was signed into law on May 8, 2008. Title VII of this law amended P.L. 94-241, the Act approving the Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States. Title VII extended most provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act to the CNMI for the first time.

Q1. What does the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker (CW) visa do?

A1. The CW visa provides lawful U.S. temporary immigration status to eligible foreign workers who:

- Perform services or labor for an employer in the CNMI; and
- Are ineligible for any other kind of employment-based nonimmigrant visa under the INA.

Transitional workers are expected to find a suitable alternative immigration status before the end of the transition period if they wish to remain in the CNMI. The rule allows time for employers to adjust their hiring practices and for eligible foreign workers to obtain nonimmigrant or immigrant visa classifications available under the INA.

Q2. How will the rule affect foreign workers living and working in the CNMI?

A2. The rule allows employers in the CNMI to sponsor nonimmigrant workers who otherwise would be ineligible to work under the INA and gives foreign workers until Dec. 31, 2014, to determine an appropriate long-term immigration status for themselves and their families. More than 22,000 foreign workers in the CNMI are potentially eligible for the temporary CW visa status.

Q3. Are all foreign workers eligible for the CW visa classification?

A3. No. Foreign workers who are eligible for other employment-based nonimmigrant visa classifications are not eligible for this program. In addition, a foreign national who is in the CNMI must be lawfully present in the CNMI, as described in Question 6.

Q4. What are the requirements for an individual to qualify for a CNMI-Only Transitional Worker visa?

A4. For an individual to qualify for CW visa status, both the employer and the foreign national must meet basic requirements.

Requirements for Employers

To be eligible to petition for workers for CW visa status, employers must:

- Be engaged in a legitimate business, as defined in the final rule;
- Consider all available U.S. workers for the position;
- Offer terms and conditions of employment consistent with the nature of the employer's business in the CNMI;
- File the required forms to hire transitional workers;
- Comply with all federal and CNMI requirements relating to employment, including but not limited to nondiscrimination, occupational safety and minimum-wage requirements; and
- Pay the worker's cost of return transportation to their last place of foreign residence if they are involuntarily dismissed from employment for any reason before the end of the period of authorized admission.

Requirements for Workers

An individual may be eligible for CW-1 nonimmigrant classification if he or she:

- Is ineligible for any other employment-based nonimmigrant status under U.S. immigration law;
- Will enter or stay in the CNMI to work in an occupational category designated as needing foreign workers to supplement the resident workforce;
- Is the beneficiary of a petition filed by a legitimate employer who is doing business in the CNMI;
- Is not present in the United States, other than the CNMI;
- Is lawfully present in the CNMI if present in the CNMI; and
- Is otherwise admissible to the United States or is granted any necessary waiver of a ground of inadmissibility.

Q5. What qualifies as a "legitimate business" under this rule?

A5. The final rule defines a legitimate business as "a real, active, and operating commercial or entrepreneurial undertaking which produces services or goods for profit, or is a governmental, charitable, or other validly recognized nonprofit entity. The business must meet applicable legal requirements for doing business in the CNMI. A business will not be considered legitimate if it engages directly or indirectly in prostitution, trafficking in minors, or any other activity that is illegal under federal or CNMI law."

Q6. What does "lawfully present in the CNMI" mean for purposes of eligibility for the CW nonimmigrant classification?

A6. In order to be eligible for a grant of status in the CNMI, an individual must be lawfully present in the CNMI. This means that the person must either (1) at the time the application for status is filed, be within the period of stay authorized by the "umbrella permit" or other CNMI authorization (which expires no later than Nov. 27, 2011); or (2) be within a period of lawful admission or parole into the CNMI granted by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), except for an admission or parole as a tourist or business visitor.

Q7. What is the admission code for this visa classification?

A7. The nonimmigrant visa classification admission code is CW-1 for principal CNMI-Only Transitional Workers and CW-2 for their dependents.

Q8. Can the CW visa classification be extended beyond Dec. 31, 2014?

A8. Yes. The CW visa classification currently expires at the end of the transition period on Dec. 31, 2014. However, the U.S. Department of Labor has the authority to extend the validity period of the CNMI Transitional Worker visa categories beyond Dec. 31, 2014. The Secretary of Labor may extend the transitional worker program if it is determined that current and anticipated labor needs justify such an extension to ensure adequate employment in the CNMI.

Q9. How many public com-

Continued on Next Page

Prostate Cancer Awareness

SEPTEMBER 2011

"Real Men Get Their Facts!"

Prostate Health Forum

Aqua Resort Club Hotel
September 16, 2011 • 8am to 2pm

CALLING MEN 40 yrs & above
SEATS are LIMITED so please RSVP
with Kimberly Sablan at 236-8728

IMPORTANT DATES:

Proclamation Signing
August 31, 2011 at 1:30pm,
Saipan Mayor's Office
First 50 MEN get a FREE T-shirt

Educational Booth and Celebrity Bagging
Saturdays, September 10, 2011
9:00am to 12:00pm
Joeten Susupe and
Super Fresh Market

Health Walk
September 7, 2011
Oleai Beach Pavilion,
4:30pm to 6:00pm

September 27, 2011
Garapan Fishing Base,
4:30pm to 6:00pm

First 100 MEN get a FREE T-Shirt First 25 MEN get a FREE Health Screening

Educational Booth at the Garapan Street Market
Thursday, September 8, 2011 • 5:00pm to 9:00pm

BRISK PROJECT
CNMI Diabetes Prevention and Control Program
DPH-COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER Tel: (670) 323-6560/61
Big Steps for Little Feet
MCH Program
CNMI COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH HEALTH AND WELL BEING
NORTHERN MARIANAS CREES COOPERATIVE RESEARCH, EXTENSION & EDUCATION SERVICE
Commonwealth Cancer Association AWARENESS•EDUCATION•HOPE
family PLANNING
HIV/STD PREVENTION PROGRAM

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ments did DHS receive on the Interim Final Rule?

A9. During the initial and extended comment periods, DHS received 146 comments from a broad spectrum of individuals and organizations, including the CNMI Governor's Office, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, a former CNMI senator and other interested organizations and individuals. DHS considered all comments received in preparing this final rule. Details may be found in the Federal Register final rule.

QUESTIONS FOR EMPLOYERS

Q10. When may employers begin filing petitions for workers?

A10. Employers may begin filing petitions on Oct. 7, 2011. An employer, however, cannot apply for a worker more than six months before the date the employer needs the worker's services. For example, if an employer needs a worker's services on July 1, the employer may submit a petition for the worker no earlier than Jan. 1 of the same year.

Q11. If a worker is currently employed in the CNMI under an "umbrella permit" or other CNMI work authorization expiring Nov. 27, 2011, when must an employer petition for that worker to obtain CW status?

A11. The employer must petition for the worker on or before Nov. 27, 2011. The employee must be lawfully present in the CNMI as of the date of filing the petition in order to be eligible for a grant of CW status. Employees whose work authorization under the CNRA expires Nov. 27, 2011, and who do not have a CW petition filed on their behalf by that date, will no longer be lawfully present in the CNMI. A petition to sponsor these workers as CW-1 nonimmigrants must be postmarked no later than Nov. 28, 2011 (for example, by the end of the first business day after Sunday, Nov. 27, 2011, CNMI local time).

Workers no longer lawfully present in the CNMI must leave the CNMI before their employers can file the petition. They cannot reenter the CNMI and resume employment until the petition is granted and they obtain a CW visa at a U.S. Consulate abroad.

Q12. May an employer continue to employ a worker under an "umbrella permit" or other CNMI work authorization after Nov. 27, 2011, if the petition for CW status is pending?

A12. Yes. The worker's lawful presence is based on the petition filing date, so if the employer files the petition no later than Nov. 27, 2011, the worker will remain eligible for a grant of CW status. USCIS will consider a petition postmarked Nov. 28, 2011, as filed on Nov. 27, 2011 (as discussed in the response to Question 11). If an employer applies for CW status for a worker he or she currently employs in the CNMI under an umbrella permit or other CNMI authorization expiring Nov. 27, 2011, the employer may lawfully continue to employ the worker until a decision is made on the application. If the petition is granted, the worker will receive CW status and may continue to be employed. If the petition is denied, the work authorization ceases at that time.

Q13. What must an employer do to petition for a foreign worker?

A13. Before an employer may petition for a foreign worker, the employer must consider available U.S. workers for the position being filled by the CW worker.

To petition for a foreign worker, an employer must:

- File a Form I-129CW, Petition for a CNMI-Only Nonimmigrant Transitional Worker;
- Offer terms and conditions of employment that are consistent with the nature of the occupation, activity and industry in the CNMI;
- File supporting evidence certifying that the information provided about the employer, job position and prospective worker is accurate and meets eligibility criteria; and
- Submit the appropriate filing fees.

Q14. Does an employer need to file a separate Form I-129CW for each transitional worker?

A14. No. An employer can file a single petition for multiple workers, so long as all workers:

- Will work in the same occupational category;
- Will be employed for the same period of time;
- Will be employed in the same location; and
- Are requesting the same action in Part 2 of the petition (Change of Status, Extension of Status, etc.).

Q15. What are the filing fees associated with a Form I-129CW?

A15. If you are an employer in the CNMI seeking to sponsor an eligible individual as a CNMI-Only Transitional Worker, please see the associated filing fees below.

If you	You must	And
Are petitioning for one or more workers who are lawfully present in the CNMI with a federal nonimmigrant status (e.g., F-1 or H-1B)...	submit a Form I-129CW with the $325 application fee...	submit a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 per beneficiary. Do not submit a biometrics fee.
Are petitioning for one or more workers who are lawfully present in the CNMI with a CNMI permit OR have been granted parole by USCIS or CBP (except as a visitor for business or pleasure from Russia or China)...	submit a Form I-129CW with the $325 application fee...	submit a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 fee per beneficiary. Either you or the worker must also submit an $85 biometrics fee if you are requesting a Grant of Status in the CNMI.*
Are petitioning for one or more workers who are requesting consular processing abroad...	submit a Form I-129CW with the $325 application fee...	submit a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 fee per beneficiary. Do not submit a biometrics fee. A biometrics fee may be required by the Department of State when the worker applies for his or her visa abroad.
Are requesting an extension of status for a CW nonimmigrant worker...	submit a Form I-129CW with the $325 application fee...	Submit a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of $150 fee per beneficiary.

***Please note** that workers planning to travel abroad in the near future may request consular processing of their visa abroad. A request for consular processing, if approved, will not grant status to the beneficiary. However, it will be processed faster, as it does not necessitate the collection of the beneficiary's biometric information and fingerprinting. Additionally, a request for consular processing will not require a payment of $85 to USCIS. Workers who travel abroad will require a valid visa to reenter the CNMI, whether or not they were granted status in the CNMI.

Q16. Can filing fees be waived?

A16. The Form I-129CW and biometrics filing fees may be waived in extraordinary situations where an employer demonstrates an inability to pay the filing fee but is still able pay the employee's wage. To request a fee waiver you must submit a Form I-912, Request for Individual Fee Waiver, or a written request for a fee waiver. The $150 CNMI education funding fee cannot be waived.

For more guidance about applying for a fee waiver, visit www.uscis.gov/feewaiver.

Q17. What evidence should an employer provide with the Form I-129CW petition?

A17. The employer must complete the form fully, including the attestations needed to establish eligibility. The employer should submit evidence, to the extent available, to support the elements in the attestation. For example, in order to support the attestation that there are no qualified U.S. workers available to fill the position, the employer may submit evidence that the job vacancy has been posted in daily newspaper want ads or on job vacancy websites such as those operated by the CNMI Department of Labor and private recruitment firms.

Q18. Can an employer petition for CW workers if the employer's business license has been suspended or revoked by the CNMI government, or if the license has not been renewed for any other reason?

A18. In order to petition for CW workers, an employer must be doing business in the CNMI in a legitimate business manner; this means he or she meets applicable legal requirements for doing business in the CNMI. To the extent available, the employer should provide evidence of compliance with all applicable license requirements. If a business or occupational license has been suspended, revoked or not renewed, the employer should submit disclosure and a full explanation of all relevant facts in writing along with his or her petition. USCIS will consider this information on a case-by-case basis with respect to whether the employer and/or the foreign worker are eligible for the requested CW classification. In addition, if the foreign worker requires an occupational license, the employer should provide evidence of such licensing.

Q19. Can an employer who has been barred by the CNMI government from employing foreign workers petition for CW workers?

A19. Placement of an employer on the CNMI's "barred employer list" does not disqualify an employer from petitioning for CW foreign workers. However, placement on this list should be disclosed and fully explained in the petition, for consideration as appropriate by USCIS with respect to eligibility for the benefit sought.

Q20. Are there any occupational categories that are excluded from eligibility for CW status?

A20. No.

Q21. To be eligible for CW status, a worker must be ineligible for other employment-based nonimmigrant categories under the INA. Does this mean that an employer must apply for those other categories and be denied, prior to petitioning for CW status for a worker?

A21. No. Employers do not need to show that they have unsuccessfully applied for any other nonimmigrant classification for a worker. Employers must attest that the position is not temporary or seasonal in nature (because they can use the H-2B nonimmigrant classification to obtain temporary or seasonal workers), and that they do not reasonably believe the worker qualifies for any other nonimmigrant worker classification. Employers that have applied unsuccessfully for another nonimmigrant classification for a worker should supply that evidence to support the attestation.

Q22. What is the appeal process if a petition is denied?

A22. The administrative appeal process for Form I-129CW is consistent with other nonimmigrant classifications. To appeal the denial of a CW-1 petition, the petitioning employer in the CNMI must file a Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion. Only the petitioning employer, not an employee, may appeal the denial. An application for a change of status or an extension of status may not be appealed if it is denied.

Q23. Can private individuals petition for foreign workers being employed to provide domestic household labor?

A23. Only an entity doing business, as defined by the transitional worker rule, may petition for CW workers. Private households generally are not eligible.

QUESTIONS FOR WORKERS

Q24. What must a worker in the CNMI do to obtain CW-1 status?

A24. Only an employer can file a petition for a worker to obtain CW-1 status. An individual must be sponsored by an employer and must meet basic eligibility requirements. An individual may be eligible for CW-1 nonimmigrant classification if he or she:

- Is ineligible for any other nonimmigrant or immigrant status under U.S. immigration law;
- Will enter or stay in the CNMI to work in an occupational category designated as needing alien workers to supplement the resident workforce;
- Is the beneficiary of a petition filed by a legitimate employer doing business in the CNMI;
- Is not present in the United States, other than the CNMI;
- Is lawfully present in the CNMI, if present in the CNMI; and
- Is otherwise admissible to the United States or is granted any necessary waiver of a ground of inadmissibility.

Q25. How can an eligible individual obtain a CW-1 or CW-2 visa from outside the CNMI?

A25. Once an I-129CW filed with USCIS by the employer is approved, the eligible individual applying from outside the CNMI must contact the U.S. Department of State to apply for a CW-1 or CW-2 visa based on the employer's approved petition. The CW-2 classification is limited to dependents of CW-1 status holders (spouses and unmarried children under the age of 18).

Q26. Can an individual with a CW visa be employed anywhere in the United States?

A26. No. An individual with CW-1 status may only work in the CNMI for the petitioning employer that filed the approved petition. The employer must file a new I-129CW petition if there are any material changes in the terms and conditions of employment. CW status does not authorize individuals to work in any other state or territory of the United States, including the neighboring territory of Guam. Individuals with CW-2 status may not work in the CNMI or in any other part or territory of the United States.

Q27. Can an individual with CW-1 status change employers?

A27. Yes, but the new employer must file a Form I129-CW petition with USCIS. The worker may start work for the new employer as soon as the new employer files the petition. This must be a nonfrivolous Form I-129CW petition for a change of employer, meaning that the petition is filed on behalf of an individual who is in CW-1 status at the time of filing, for a bona fide job offer for which the individual meets the qualifications. If the petition is denied, the work authorization ceases.

Q28. How long is CW status valid?

A28. CW-1 status will be granted for one year. The employer may request an extension of status by filing a new I129-CW petition. A dependent's CW-2 status expires on the same day as the principal's CW-1 status and can be extended when the principal's CW-1 status is extended.

Q29. Does an individual with CW status lose that status if terminated from employment?

A29. Yes, a foreign worker with CW nonimmigrant status will lose that status if he or she violates any of the terms or conditions that are associated with that CW status. When the violation is solely caused by termination from employment, however, a worker will not be considered to have violated his or her status if, within 30 days from the date of termination, he or she obtains new employment and an employer files a nonfrivolous petition on his or her behalf; but only if the foreign worker does not violate any other terms or conditions of CW status.

Thus, if new employment is found, the new employer must file a petition for the foreign worker before the end of this 30-day period in order for the foreign worker to remain law-

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fully present in the CNMI. Per the answer to Question 27, the foreign worker may only begin work with the new employer after that employer files the petition. If a new petition is not filed within 30 days, the foreign worker must leave the CNMI and that worker will be considered to be out of status effective on the date of termination of CW-1 employment. Any petition filed for that worker after the 30-day period will require an approved petition and a CW visa issued at a Consulate outside the CNMI before the foreign worker can return and start new employment in the CNMI.

Q30. I am a foreign worker who has been living and working lawfully in the CNMI, and my employer is willing to sponsor me for the CW visa. What steps do I need to take to obtain CW status in the CNMI?

A30. The following steps need to be taken in this situation.

Step 1: Your employer must submit the following forms to sponsor you:

- A Form I-129CW;
- The $325 application fee;
- The mandatory $150 education fee; and
- Supporting evidence certifying that the information provided about you, your employer and the job position is accurate and meets eligibility requirements.

Either you or your employer must also include the $85 biometrics fee with the petition (unless you are requesting consular processing). After your employer files the Form I-129CW, USCIS will contact you regarding when you will need to appear to provide your fingerprints and photograph at the USCIS Application Support Center in TSL Plaza on Saipan.

Step 2: If your Form I129-CW is approved, USCIS will mail an approval notice to your employer. Make sure your employer gives you a copy of the approval notice. The approval notice and attached Form I-94 will indicate that your status in the CNMI has been adjusted to CW-1. The approval notice will also inform you of whether you need to go to a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad to seek visa processing of your CW-1 visa.

Q31. How do my dependents apply to receive CW status?

A.31. As derivative of your employer's application for you to obtain CW-1 status, your dependents lawfully present in the CNMI may apply for CW-2 status. Applicants for CW-2 status must submit:

- The $290 application fee;
- The $85 biometrics services fee if applicable;
- A copy of your approval notice and Form I-94 documenting admission to the CNMI in the CW-1 classification (if available); and
- An Application to Change or Extend Status, Form I-539.

Dependents may not need to file Form I-539, depending on how the primary CW-1 status is being processed.

If	Then
You are requesting consular processing of your CW-1 status at a U.S. Consulate or Embassy abroad...	your dependents may also seek consular processing of their CW-2 status at the same time. Dependents do not need to file a Form I-539 if they file for CW status from outside the CNMI.
You are in the CNMI and your employer has filed the Form I-129CW requesting CW-1 status for you...	your dependents may file a Form I-539 at the same time or at any time while the I-129CW is pending. The I-539 must be accompanied by an additional biometrics fee unless the dependent is under 14 years of age or is 79 or older. However, your dependents' Form I-539 will not be approved if your application for grant of status is denied. If the Form I-539 is approved, USCIS will send your dependents an approval notice as evidence of the approved Form I-539 with an I-94 as evidence of CW-2 status.

Q32. My dependents and I will be lawfully present in the CNMI until Nov. 27, 2011. An employer is willing to petition for CW-1 status for me. Does the employer have to file the petition before Nov. 27, 2011? If so, do my dependents also have to file their applications for CW-2 status before Nov. 27, 2011?

A32. In order for you and your dependents in the CNMI to be eligible for CW status, you must be lawfully present in the CNMI on the date your application for CW status is filed. For you (the principal worker), that is the date your employer files the I-129CW petition requesting that you be granted CW-1 status. For your dependents, that is the date they file the I-539 application for a grant of CW-2 status. If you or your dependents have umbrella permits or other work authorization expiring Nov. 27, 2011, these applications MUST be filed on or before Nov. 27, 2011, to be eligible for a grant of CW status in the CNMI. USCIS will consider a petition postmarked Nov. 28, 2011, as filed on Nov. 27, 2011 (as discussed in the response to Question 11). Dependent applications do not have to be filed before the principal CW-1 application has been granted; but dependents must keep in mind that, regardless of whether or not the CW-1 application has been granted, the dependent application must be filed while the dependent is still lawfully present in the CNMI. Otherwise, the dependent can only obtain CW-2 status through a visa application to a U.S. Consulate abroad.

Q33. Which dependents are eligible for derivative CW-2 status?

A33. Spouses and minor children (children under 18 years of age) are eligible for derivative CW-2 status. Children over 18 years of age, and parents or other relatives, are not eligible for CW-2 status.

Q34. I am a foreign worker living abroad and an employer in the CNMI is willing to sponsor me. What are the steps I need to take to obtain a CW visa?

A34. In this situation, the following steps should be taken:

Step 1: For you to obtain a CW visa, the sponsoring employer must first submit the following documents:

- A Form I-129CW;
- The $325 application fee;
- The mandatory $150 education fee; and
- Supporting evidence certifying that the information provided about you, your employer and the job position are accurate and meets eligibility requirements.

Step 2: If the petition is approved, USCIS will mail an approval notice to your employer. Your employer will need to send you the original approval notice to your address abroad.

After you receive the approval notice, you will need to schedule a nonimmigrant visa interview at the U.S. Consulate or Embassy nearest to you. Your dependents may simultaneously apply for CW-2 visas with the U.S. Department of State and do not need to file a Form I-129CW or Form I-539. The Department of State has separate application and fee requirements for visa applications.

You and your dependents will not have CW-1 or CW-2 status until you obtain a CW visa from the U.S. Department of State and are admitted to the CNMI. The approval of a Form I129-CW for consular processing approves the classification only and does not grant you any additional status in the CNMI.

Q35. If I am working for an employer who has sponsored me for CW-1 status in the CNMI, and my umbrella permit expires on Nov. 27, 2011, can I continue working until a decision is made on the petition?

A35. Yes. If you are lawfully employed in the CNMI under a CNMI grant of work authorization that expires Nov. 27, 2011, and your employer files a CW petition for you on or before Nov. 28, 2011, you are authorized to continue your employment until USCIS makes a decision on the petition.

Q36. What must a worker submit to the Department of State for a CW nonimmigrant visa?

A36. The Department of State requires all nonimmigrant visa applicants to complete a Form DS-160, Application for Nonimmigrant Visa, with the required fee. The Department of State encourages families to file together, even if the family members will be traveling separately.

Q37. How do I make an appointment for a visa interview?

A37. Each U.S. Consulate has its own process for making visa appointments. Depending on the consulate, you may either call or make an appointment online. All fees must be paid before you make an appointment.

The Department of State website, www.usembassy.gov, has more information about nonimmigrant visa interviews. This website also has information about expected wait times for nonimmigrant visa interviews at every U.S. Consulate overseas. You will need to bring the petition approval notice and the Form DS-160 with you to the appointment.

Q38. What if I work for more than one employer?

A38. If you work for more than one employer, each employer must file a separate Form I-129CW with USCIS.

Q39. Can a beneficiary with CW-2 status work?

A39. No. The CW-2 status does not authorize employment.

Q40. My spouse and I are both employed. If my spouse cannot work as a CW-2 nonimmigrant, how can he or she continue to work if I receive CW-1 status?

A40. Your respective employers can petition for each of you to obtain CW-1 status.

Q41. Can an individual with a CW visa apply for other visa classifications?

A41. Yes. During the transition period, CW transitional workers and their dependents may apply for other INA nonimmigrant or immigrant visa classifications.

Q42. Is it necessary to apply for a CW visa if a temporary worker has a CNMI permit?

A42. Yes. An employer must apply for a CW visa if the employer wants to continue to employ a worker after the expiration of the worker's CNMI permit, unless another work-authorized status can be obtained under federal immigration law. Workers may remain in the CNMI until their permits expire, or until Nov. 27, 2011, whichever date occurs first. Only an employer may decide whether to petition for a worker to obtain CW classification or status.

If a worker has an unexpired umbrella permit and needs to travel outside of the CNMI, he or she must have a U.S. visa in order to return. If the employer wishes to obtain a grant of CW status in the CNMI for an employee with an umbrella permit, the petition must be filed on or before Nov. 28, 2011. Otherwise, the worker will need to leave the CNMI and obtain a CW visa at a U.S. Consulate or Embassy abroad in order to be admitted into the CNMI in CW status.

Q43. What happens to CW-1 transitional workers and their dependents at the end of the transition period?

A43. At the end of the transition period, Dec. 31, 2014, the CW classification will cease to exist (unless the transitional worker program is extended by the U.S. Secretary of Labor). Transitional workers who held the CW status must obtain nonimmigrant or immigrant status under the INA before this date if they wish to stay in the CNMI lawfully.

QUESTIONS ABOUT TRAVEL

Q44. As a CW-1 or CW-2 status holder, what do I need to do in order to travel?

A44. CW status holders must obtain a CW-1 or CW-2 visa from the U.S. Department of State abroad if they wish to travel abroad and re-enter the CNMI. The Department of State has separate application and fee requirements for visa applications. For more information on traveling outside of the CNMI, please visit the Department of State website.

Q45. Can workers with advance parole travel abroad and work with an authorized umbrella permit upon their return to the CNMI?

A45. Yes. Workers with a valid umbrella permit and a valid travel document can continue to travel and return legally to work in the CNMI if they have applied for and been granted advance parole.

USCIS has used advance parole and parole-in-place as temporary measures because no visa classification under the INA allowed legitimate workers to continue to travel and return to the CNMI after traveling internationally or within the United States without a visa. Advance parole will not normally be considered for individuals who have received CW status in the CNMI, and who therefore can obtain a visa abroad for their return to the CNMI.

Q46. Can individuals with CW status return from travel outside the CNMI?

A46. A CW-1 or CW-2 nonimmigrant may leave the CNMI, but he or she must have the appropriate visa to reenter the CNMI. The CW worker must apply for a CW visa at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate abroad before seeking readmission to the CNMI. If the CW-1 or CW-2 status is obtained while in the CNMI, the nonimmigrant will be given a Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record, as documentation of CW status.

Q47. Is CW status valid in any part of the United States other than the CNMI?

A.47. No, CW status is limited to the CNMI. Individuals with CW status who travel or attempt to travel, without otherwise receiving authorization, to any other part of the United States including Guam have violated their CW status and are subject to removal from the United States to their country of nationality. However, the final rule provides one important exception; please see Question 48 for further clarification.

Q48. Can individuals with CW nonimmigrant status, or with CW visas, transit through the Guam airport?

A48. Individuals who are nationals of the Philippines may travel between the CNMI and the Philippines through the Guam airport under the following conditions:

Outbound from the CNMI to the Philippines via Guam: The individual is in valid CW status and is traveling on a direct itinerary involving a flight stopover or connection in Guam of no more than eight hours, and the individual remains at the Guam airport during the transit.

Inbound from the Philippines to the CNMI via Guam: The individual has a valid CW visa and is traveling on a direct itinerary involving a flight stopover or connection in Guam of no more than eight hours, and the individual remains at the Guam airport during the transit.

Other individuals in CW status or with CW visas cannot travel to or from foreign destinations with a stopover or connection through Guam.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Update: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=3b0403dca1042310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=68439c7755cb9010VgnVCM10000045f3d6a1RCRD (translated materials are on the right side)

Q&A: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.5af9bb95919f35e66f614176543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=378603dca1042310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=68439c7755cb9010VgnVCM10000045f3d6a1RCRD

CNMI Webpage: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=4d3314dd2b635210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=4d3314dd2b635210VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD

CW-1: CNMI-Only Temporary Worker Webpage http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnextoid=d2f647e523f32310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextchannel=d2f647e523f32310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD

Source: http://www.uscis.gov

Remembering terror's victims

After a decade of work to reclaim the site in lower Manhattan where the U.S. was attacked on Sept. 11, 2001, significant progress is now on display in the form of the 9/11 Memorial and Museum, which will be the emotional center of the rebuilt site.

Recovery, rebuilding

• Sept. 11, 2001
Hijackers crash two Boeing 767 jetliners into the twin towers of the World Trade Center; damage and fires cause both towers to collapse; debris destroys several other buildings or forces their later demolition

• May 30, 2002
More than one million tons of concrete and steel debris removed to date

• Nov. 20, 2002
Plans for a new 7 WTC tower unveiled

• December 2002
Second round of a design contest for reconstruction plan takes place; proposals by Daniel Libeskind and six others chosen as semifinalists

• February 2003
Libeskind's design selected

• April 2003
Design competition for memorial announced

• July 2003
Santiago Calatrava of Spain chosen to design new PATH train station, centerpiece of the rebuilt WTC transportation hub

• January 2004
Michael Arad chosen as the memorial designer

• March 2006
Work begins on memorial

• April 2006
Port Authority and developer Larry Silverstein reach deals in which he relinquishes his rights to develop 1 WTC (Freedom Tower) and 5 WTC in exchange for control of towers 2, 3 and 4 and access to Liberty Bond financing

• April 27, 2006
Ground broken on Freedom Tower

• Sept. 7, 2006
Silverstein unveils plans for towers 2, 3 and 4

• May 11, 2009
Port Authority says it wants to cancel construction on a new 5 WTC, cutting total office space in the reconstructed site to 5 million sq. ft. (465,000 sq. m) from 6.7 million sq. ft. (622,500 sq. m)

• April 2010
Two reflecting pools are fully framed in steel

• Summer 2010
Foundation work begins for towers 2 and 3

• Aug. 28, 2010
Two tridents are installed in the museum's pavilion atrium

• May 2011
Workers begin testing south pool's waterfalls

• July 2011
Framing on 1 WTC climbs to 76 out of 105 floors, while facade reaches 49th floor; completion expected in late 2013

Source: National September 11 Memorial & Museum Foundation, Faithful & Gould, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, Tishman Construction, Silverstein Properties, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Skidmore Owings & Merrill, Maki and Associates, Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center, Digital Globe, AP

Graphic: Robert Dorrell, Pat Carr

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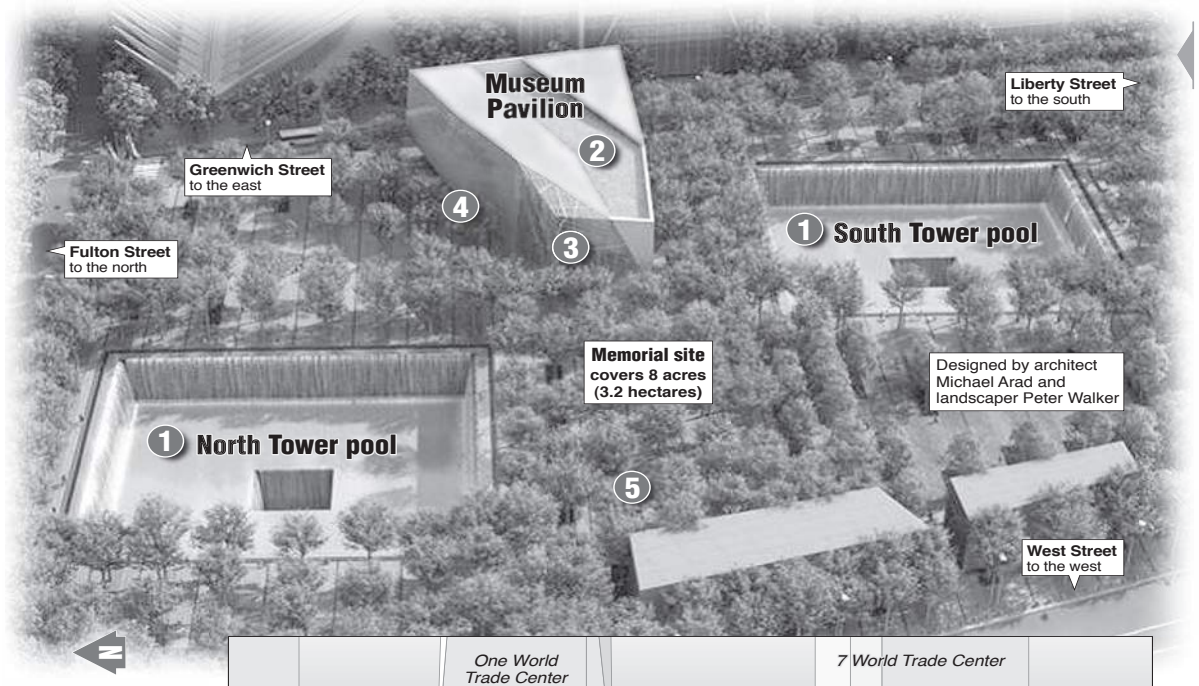
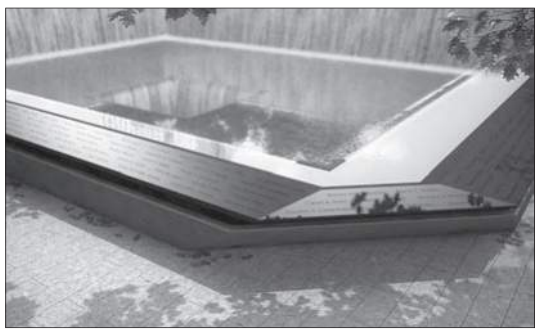

Museum Pavilion
Liberty Street to the south
Greenwich Street to the east
Fulton Street to the north
1 South Tower pool
1 North Tower pool
Memorial site covers 8 acres (3.2 hectares)
Designed by architect Michael Arad and landscaper Peter Walker
West Street to the west
N
One World Trade Center (Freedom Tower; to be completed in 2013)
7 World Trade Center
Memorial plaza
Museum pavilion
North Tower pool
West Street
Greenwich Street
Museum underground

Another view

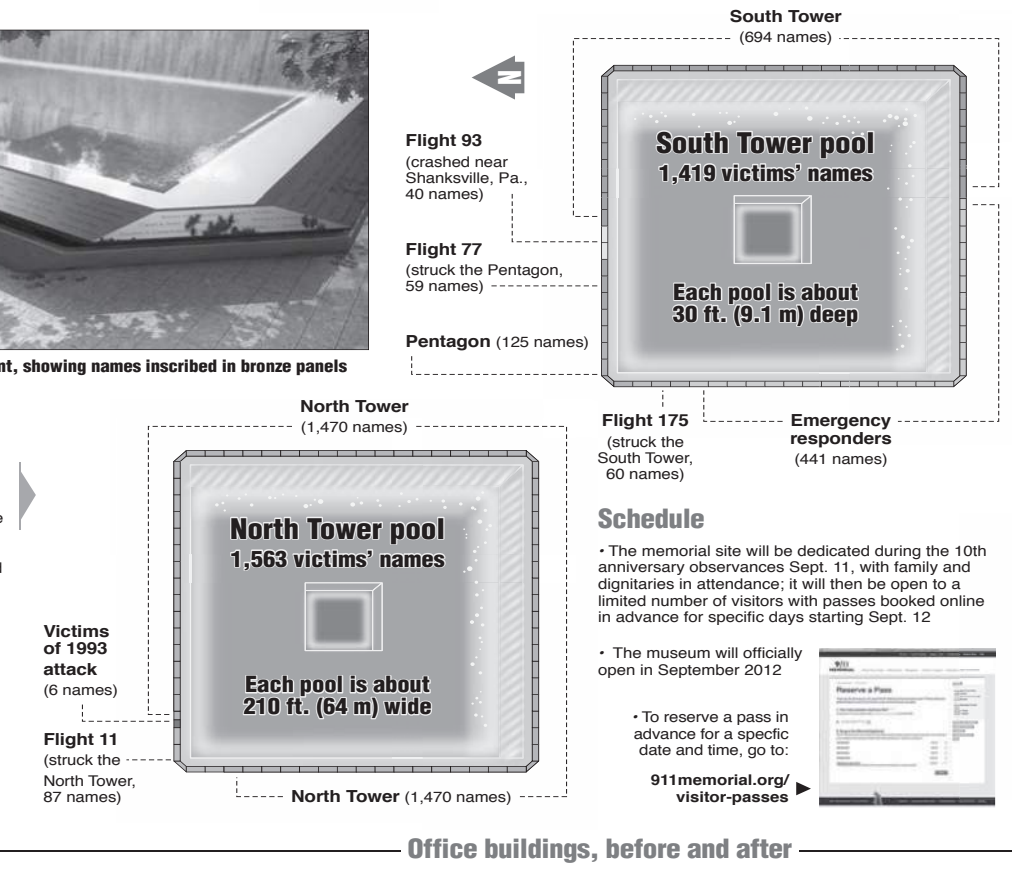
- Cross-section of site, looking north
- Exhibits presented both above and below ground
- Lowest point of interior is about 70 feet (21.3 m) below street level



Rendering of pediment, showing names inscribed in bronze panels

Victims' names

- Names of victims killed in the 9/11 attacks, as well as those who died in the 1993 bombing of the North Tower parking garage, are inscribed in pediments around the perimeter of each pool
- Names in the first responders' section, around the southwest corner of the South Tower pool, are arranged according to agency, such as the New York Fire Department, and unit



Schedule

- The memorial site will be dedicated during the 10th anniversary observances Sept. 11, with family and dignitaries in attendance; it will then be open to a limited number of visitors with passes booked online in advance for specific days starting Sept. 12
- The museum will officially open in September 2012
- To reserve a pass in advance for a specfic date and time, go to:

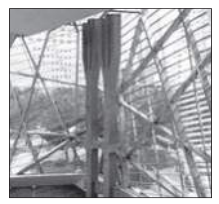
911memorial.org/visitor-passes ▶

Details of the memorial site

1 Reflecting pools
Two massive pools with waterfalls around the inner sides are positioned in the footprints of the former towers; each pool holds 480,000 gallons (1.8 million liters) of water and takes about 15 hours to fill; each is lined with 1,900 granite tiles

2 9/11 Museum Pavilion
This new building serves as the entry to the underground museum via a series of slowly descending ramps; glass-covered atrium facing the North Tower pool lets site visitors see inside and visitors inside can see the plaza area

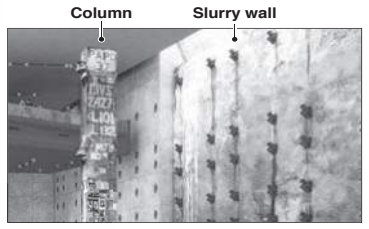
3 Tridents ▶
Inside the atrium, two distinctive exterior columns from the old towers will serve as reminders of the huge scale of the fallen buildings



4 Victims remembrance ▼
A "Wall of Faces" displays photos of victims from 1993 and 2001; interactive tables and wall displays offer information about each person, including remembrances by friends and family

5 Trees
More than 400 white swamp oak and American sweet gum trees have been planted in the plaza in a mixture of soil and gravel designed to promote healthy root growth

6 Slurry wall ▼
Lining portions of the underground exhibit area are exposed sections of the slurry wall, the barrier originally built to line the sunken "bathtub" in which the WTC was built; the wall keeps Hudson River waters from seeping in



7 Last column ▲
The west chamber of the below-ground exhibit area contains the last steel column removed from the WTC site, covered with tributes from construction crews

8 South Tower column footings
At the bedrock level of the museum, about 70 ft. (21.3 m) below street level, is an array of the original box-beam column footings from the missing towers, another reminder of them

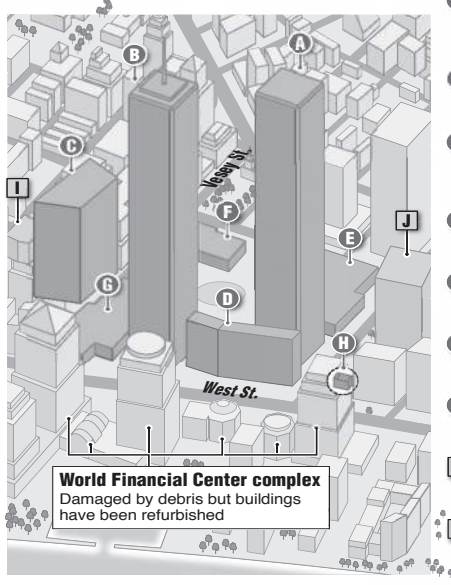
Office buildings, before and after

After working 24 hours a day for more than eight months, in spring 2002 workers finally finished dismantling the wreckage left by the attacks. But plans for new office buildings, such as those for the memorial itself, have been slowed by controversy over design and disagreements between the Port Authority and Silverstein Properties. Work on a series of new towers is now progressing.

BEFORE 9/11

Buildings destroyed in the 9/11 attacks (or which collapsed or were deliberately demolished later)

Buildings badly damaged on 9/11 (and deconstructed later)



A World Trade Center South Tower (also known as 2 WTC; opened in 1971)
Struck by United Airlines Flight 175; collapsed at 9:59 a.m.; debris severely damaged several other buildings

B World Trade Center North Tower (also known as 1 WTC; opened in 1970)
Struck by American Airlines Flight 11; collapsed at 10:28 a.m.

C 7 World Trade Center (opened in 1987)
Damaged and set afire by debris from 1 WTC; collapsed at 5:20 p.m.

D 3 World Trade Center (opened in 1981, housed a Marriott hotel)
Nearly totally destroyed by debris from both towers; remnants torn down

E 4 World Trade Center (opened in 1975)
Damaged by debris from 2 WTC; remnants torn down

F 5 World Trade Center (opened in 1975)
Damaged by debris from 1 WTC; remnants torn down

G 6 World Trade Center (opened in 1975)
Damaged by debris from 1 WTC; remnants torn down

H St. Nicholas Church (opened in 1916, building dated to 1832)
Destroyed by debris from 2 WTC

I Fiterman Hall (building dated to 1959)
Damaged by debris from 1 WTC; deconstruction finished November 2009

J 130 Liberty St. (building dated to 1974)
Damaged by debris from 2 WTC; deconstruction finished February 2011

A 7 World Trade Center
- Construction began in 2002, completed in 2006; controlled by Silverstein
- **Floors** 52
- **Height** 741 ft. (226 m)

B 1 World Trade Center (also known as Freedom Tower)
- Construction began in 2006; controlled by Port Authority, centerpiece of WTC rebuilding effort
- **Floors** 105
- **Height** 1,776 ft. (541 m) to top of spire, 1,368 ft. (417 m) to top of roof
- **Completion** 2013

C 2 World Trade Center
- Controlled by Silverstein
- **Floors** 79
- **Height** 1,270 ft. (387 m)
- **Completion** 2014

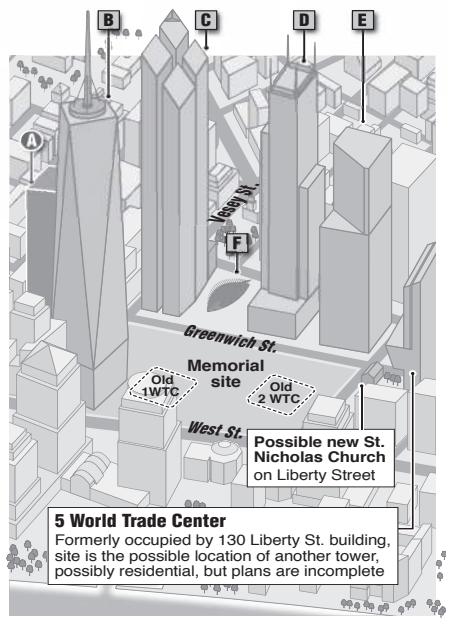
D 3 World Trade Center
- Controlled by Silverstein
- **Floors** 71
- **Height** 1,155 ft. (352 m)
- **Completion** 2014

E 4 World Trade Center
- Controlled by Silverstein
- **Floors** 64
- **Height** 974 ft. (297 m)
- **Completion** 2012

F New PATH train terminal
- Replaces temporary terminal; links PATH trains to New York City subway
- **Completion** 2014

RECONSTRUCTION

Completed **Under construction**



Finally, World Trade Center rises from ground zero

NEW YORK (AP)—Ten years after the 9/11 attacks destroyed the World Trade Center, an 80-story glass and steel tower is rising like a phoenix from the ashes of ground zero.

The site called a "hole in the ground" for years has cranes in the air, trains running underground and hundreds of trees planted around giant, man-made waterfalls to remember the dead of Sept. 11.

And the surrounding neighborhood—no longer just a financial district—is bursting with young families, new schools, a Whole Foods and a Barnes & Noble.

Tourists squint and point their cellphones at 1 World Trade Center, once known as the Freedom Tower.

"I'm kind of proud because I was here two weeks after 9/11 and this was a dust pit," said Larry Brancato, 59, of Wallingford, Conn, walking by ground zero. "It just shows that Americans have always had a can-do attitude."

After years of inertia, and prolonged disputes between government agencies, insurer and a developer who had just taken out a 99-year lease on the towers when they were toppled, the development of the trade center is substantial, and the tallest tower can now be seen for miles.

"People can begin to see that this is no longer a hole in the middle of New York, but a real place is emerging," said architect Daniel Libeskind, whose master plan serves as a blueprint for the site.

A memorial featuring waterfalls cascading into the footprints of the twin towers will open to the public on Sept. 12, a day after families see their loved ones' names around the pools for the first time. The skyscraper formerly known as the Freedom Tower is growing by a story a week and now stands 1,000 feet above the skyline as the tallest building in lower Manhattan. A transit station and a second office tower also are taking shape.

As the trade center lay in smoking ruins in 2001, New Yorkers debated the future of the 16-acre superblock that the twin towers had dominated. Some wanted to rebuild the two 110-story skyscrapers exactly as they had been. Others said that out of respect for the nearly 3,000 dead, the entire tract should be a memorial or a park.

Larry Silverstein, the devel-

See FINALLY on Next Page

Across the globe, families of 9/11 victims mourn

By KRISTEN GELINEAU
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP
In this Monday, July 25, 2011 photo, Vladimir Gavriushin sits at the grave he built for his daughter Yelena in a cemetery outside Vilnius, Lithuania.

In a Lithuanian cemetery, a world away from ground zero, the twin towers still stand. Vladimir Gavriushin lays white roses near the 6-foot granite replicas of the World Trade Center's skyscrapers, a memorial he built to honor his daughter Yelena, one of the nearly 3,000 people killed on Sept. 11.

Gavriushin has buried rocks from ground zero under these tombstone towers, far from the place Yelena died—a place he can no longer afford to visit. And so, as the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks approaches, he mourns for Yelena here, at his own ground zero.

He remembers frantically calling his daughter that day amid the terrified crowds in Brooklyn, where he was at the time: "She never answered."

Sept. 11 sent waves of grief far beyond America, as people from London to New Zealand learned their loved ones were among the dead. But though the pain transcended borders, foreign families have battled to cope with their loss from afar.

For some, it was impossible to make healing pilgrimages to the site of the tragedy, or to grieve alongside a community that understood their pain. For others, the larger struggle lies within the symbolism of Sept. 11 itself—a day that, for Americans, is inextricably tied to national identity, politics and patriotism.

Most foreigners who lost loved ones that day had little urge to wave a flag. And many questioned the politics and wars that followed. Where, then, did they fit?

"Mum was not `a hero of freedom' as I heard someone describe it once," says Simon Kennedy, an Australian whose mother died on Sept. 11 when terrorists crashed her plane into the Pentagon. "She was in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Yvonne Kennedy had handed the itinerary for her North American vacation to her son with trademark black humor. "This is just in case the terrorists get me," the 62-year-old said—as she always did—before she set out on her adventure, a retirement gift she'd given herself after a nearly 30-year career with the Red Cross.

One year after the attacks, Kennedy traveled from his home in Sydney to Washington, D.C., to attend a memorial service in honor of those killed on American Airlines Flight 77. At the ceremony, Kennedy listened with growing unease to then-President George W. Bush's speech.

"Trying to wade my way through the fog of American patriotism in order to identify my own grief was very difficult," says Kennedy, a 36-year-old comedian. "So being back here in Australia, it's better—because I can just grieve it for what it was."

■■■

Grief is so personal, so complex, that it is of course too simplistic to say that those who mourned abroad had it harder, or easier, than their American counterparts. Psychologist Richard Bryant, who worked with Sept. 11 victims in the U.S. and Australia, has seen the struggle from both sides.

Some victims living in Australia temporarily felt isolated in their grief and longed for home. In other cases, being separated from the constant reminders of the tragedy was helpful.

"At least in Australia, they felt that they could talk about it and they could get away from it," says Bryant, director of the University of New South Wales Traumatic Stress Clinic. "When they went back and lived in Manhattan, they found that it was everywhere. ... And they actually felt that they were less in control of how they were processing it."

For some, though, the yearning to grieve where their loved ones died remains intense.

In a small mountain village in Mexico, Raquel Lopez and her family cannot afford visas from Mexico to the United States. So this Sept. 11, they will gather for a morning Mass and place flowers on the tomb of her brother, Leobardo Lopez.

They will share memories of the 42-year-old cook, who was killed at the Windows on the World restaurant on the top of the World Trade Center's north tower. And they will watch the anniversary events on TV.

"Where we all want to be that day, though, is ground zero," says Lopez, her eyes watering. "We want to be where he died, with people who are going through the same pain we are going through, and who understand that void we were all left with."

Like many families of foreign victims, Lopez was disturbed by the wars that followed 9/11. This year, the family will wear white as a symbol of their wish for peace.

"Maybe what the United States needs to do is sit down and have a dialogue with those people," she says. "Because they have tried war—and terrorism has not ended."

In the Philippines, journalist Cookie Micaller is frustrated by the resources the U.S. has spent fighting terrorism over the past decade, instead of combating disease, improving education and providing food and water to those in need.

"Personally, even if they wage a war, it won't bring back my sister," Micaller says.

Micaller had been working late that day at a newspaper in Manila when her editor told her to turn on the TV. A plane had crashed into the World Trade Center—where her sister, Cynthia Wilson, worked. She raced to lay out the new front page story.

"I quietly feared that I may be laying down the story of my sister's end," she remembers.

The horrible confirmation came the next day.

Shortly after, she traveled to New York with her sister and sister's husband, her first trip to the U.S. mainland. She was overwhelmed. At ground zero,

AP
In this Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2011 photo, journalist Cookie Micaller, whose sister Cynthia Wilson was one of the victims in the 2001 terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center in New York, works on a story at an American fast food restaurant chain in Manila, Philippines.

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FINALLY

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oper who signed a lease on the twin towers on July 24, 2001, pushed to rebuild the 10 million square feet of office space he had lost. Civic groups pushed for a more neighborhood-friendly design than two monoliths on a concrete plaza.

Libeskind, who won a competition to become the site's master planner, focused on the Freedom Tower, with an asymmetrical spire soared to the symbolic height of 1,776 feet and echoed the Statue of Liberty across the harbor. He set aside half the site for a memorial that left empty the spots where the destroyed towers stood, and set space aside for a performing arts center to merge culture and commerce.

Tensions were inevitable between Libeskind's artistic vision and Silverstein's desire for buildings that would draw tenants.

Now, Libeskind said, "the tensions are gone."

1 World Trade hardly resembles Libeskind's early drawings, but he called it "an impressive building."

Designed by David Childs, its tapering form is symmetrical but retains the spire and the 1,776 feet. To guard against truck bombs, the bottom 20 floors will be windowless, reinforced concrete covered by glass. The base will house infrastructure like generators and air-conditioning systems.

Critics warned that 1 World Trade would be hard to fill. Who would work in a symbolically loaded building at a location that terrorists had attacked twice? Former Gov. Eliot Spitzer once called the Freedom Tower a white elephant.

It's looking less like that now that Conde Nast has signed a lease to move its trendsetting magazines like Vogue, Glamour and Vanity Fair to 1 World Trade when the building opens in 2014.

Christopher Ward, the executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the trade center site, called the Conde Nast agreement "a phenomenal game changer."

"The Conde Nast deal has really jump-started interest downtown," Ward said.

Under a deal between Silverstein and the Port Authority, the authority is building 1 World Trade Center on the northwest corner of the site; Silverstein wants to build three office towers on the east side of the 16 acres. The first of Silverstein's buildings, known as 4 World Trade, was up to 48 floors this week. Silverstein says the 947-foot tower designed by Japan's Fumihiko Maki will be finished before the taller 1 World Trade, catty-cornered across the site.

The Port Authority, which lost its headquarters and 85 employees on Sept. 11, will move into the second tower rising at the site when it is complete. Silverstein says other "household name" tenants will follow.

With the economy nosediving and Silverstein and the Port Authority battling over who should finance two unbuilt towers—designed by architects Richard Rogers and Lord Norman Foster—the future of those buildings looked doubtful a couple of years ago.

An analysis prepared for the Port Authority in 2009 projected that there might be no market for a third tower at the site until 2030, much less the original five planned.

Silverstein and the authority agreed to a deal last year that will let Silverstein build his second skyscraper when he raises $300 million of private equity, leases out at least 400,000 square feet and obtains financing for the remaining cost of the tower. The third building under his control—the second-tallest in the master plan—will be built when the market supports it.

Silverstein, who is 80, wants to see all of the buildings completed in his lifetime—and he says he will. He said he could get another tower up in 2015. "And if it all works out well," he says, the last one could be up a year later.

Ward was slightly less optimistic, predicting that Silverstein's towers might be completed by 2017 or 2018.

Steven Spinola, president of the Real Estate Board of New York, said that despite the still-sputtering economy, there will be a demand for a new trade center.

The average age of New York City's 500 million square feet of office space is nearly 70. "Companies want fresh, new space," Spinola said. And tax incentives intended to spur redevelopment after 2001 make the trade center cheaper than other Manhattan buildings.

Tax breaks also fueled residential growth, and the population of downtown Manhattan below Chambers Street—the area that encompasses the trade center—has doubled since 2001.

Tara Stacom, a vice chairman of real estate firm Cushman & Wakefield who is in charge of leasing 1 World Trade, said the building's proximity to attractive residential neighborhoods is a selling point.

Other trade center projects include Michael Arad's memorial, the museum scheduled to open next year and Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava's transportation hub, designed to look like a bird in flight. The hub will eventually include restaurants and stores, restoring one of the largest shopping centers that used to sit at the base of the trade center.

9/11 brought changes to skyscrapers and high-rises

CHICAGO (AP)—What if it happens again?

A decade after 9/11, could any of the nation's 21,000 high-rises withstand an attack like those that caused New York's twin towers to collapse? Could the thousands of people inside find a way to safety?

At Chicago's Willis Tower, like other skyscrapers around the country, much has changed since two hijacked jets slammed into the World Trade Center. North America's tallest building now has concrete barriers, metal detectors and sophisticated security cameras that trace every nearby movement.

But those measures might do little to prevent a calamity on the scale of Sept. 11. Despite proposals for major structural changes over the last decade, thousands of buildings remain vulnerable, experts say, because the cost to retrofit them is too high, and cities and states have been slow to adopt tougher building codes for new construction.

Less sweeping improvements, such as equipping elevators for use in evacuations, are lagging behind other countries, too.

"You only can do as much as lobbyists, politicians, and the agencies you're dealing with will let you do," said Monica Gabrielle, whose husband died in the 9/11 attacks and who co-chairs the Skyscraper Safety Campaign that sprang up afterward. "The further away you get from events, then you become more complacent."

And for all the talk about beefed-up security, there is only so much that can be done to protect buildings that stand 1,000 feet or more above the ground—something Donald Trump implicitly acknowledged when he decided his new Chicago skyscraper would not climb as high as the Willis Tower because he did not want it to become a target.

While there was talk after 9/11 about making skyscrapers sturdier and easier to escape in an emergency, the structural work that would have been necessary was either too expensive or just impossible.

"I don't know of any buildings that have gone through a structural retrofit for the purpose of withstanding a major attack like 9/11," said Adrian Smith, an architect who designed the Trump International Hotel and Tower in Chicago and the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, which is now the world's tallest building.

At the same time, building industry groups have taken some steps to make new structures safer and more secure. They've proposed 40 construction code changes such as wider stairways to ensure firefighters can climb up while occupants are coming down.

Municipalities can adopt the changes as they see fit, but they are not mandatory, said Steve Daggers, a spokesman for the International Code Council.

Chicago, for example, adopted an ordinance that requires high-rises to have an emergency evacuation plan on file with the city. And the tallest buildings must provide the fire department with their floor plans so crews know the exact layout of the buildings when they walk in.

People who live and work in high-rises around the city say evacuation drills are now routine, something many say never or rarely happened before 9/11.

Many high-rises are also tougher to enter. In the immediate aftermath of the attack, Willis Tower installed airport-style security, complete with officers searching bags.

That has been scaled back, said David Milberg, a spokesman for the Schiff Hardin law firm, which has offices a little more than halfway up the 110-story building.

"Now we have key-card access for tenants. Nontenants must produce photo IDs, and we have to register guests in advance," he said.

"It's not as conspicuous as it was, (but) you don't get in here unless you're vetted," he said.

Not surprisingly, new buildings, those under construction and those on the drawing board have a number of features that older buildings did not.

In New York City, for example, stairwell enclosures in high-rises must be wider and made of harder materials, and elevator shafts must be stronger as well.

And to prevent the pancaking that happened at the World Trade Center as one floor fell onto another, the city requires high rises to be built to prevent "progressive collapse." But it doesn't spell out how to do that.

Even in places where codes have not been updated, some high-rises are taking steps to strengthen their buildings, said Jon Schmidt, an associate structural engineer and director of anti-terrorism services for the Kansas City, Mo.-based Burns & McDonnell, an engineering, architecture and consulting firm.

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a giant pile of steel pylons were twisted like an accordion. An acrid, burning stench filled the air. Rescuers, cleaners and investigators tipped their hard hats as a sign of grief and commiseration.

Wilson's body was never found. The family buried an urn filled with ashes from ground zero in a suburban New York City cemetery.

Yambem Laba, an Indian whose brother, Jupiter Yambem, was killed in the attacks, believes the U.S. had no choice but to wage war and hunt for Osama bin Laden.

"The WTC attack was the spark and the flame was the war," he says.

Each anniversary, up to 150 family members and friends honor Yambem's memory with a Hindu lunch, prayer ceremony and floral offerings to his portrait. With bin Laden's recent death, this year's gathering will be special, Laba says.

"The aftereffect of 9/11 is that the war on terrorism took a different turn," Laba says. "Earlier you could say one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter, but that no longer held true."

■■■

As the post-Sept. 11 decade ends, some foreign families of the victims are eager to move past the tragedy.

In Israel, Daniel Lewin's family honors his memory with a traditional Jewish yahrzeit, an annual memorial observance of a loved one's death. They talk about his life and study the Torah, the Hebrew Bible, in his name.

Over the years, Daniel's brother, Michael Lewin, has visited ground zero several times on business trips to New York. But he does not consider the site the best memorial for his brother.

"I'm glad to see that America is rebuilding ground zero," he says. "But the point of memory is not to be sad, but to use the loss of 9/11 to make the world better. Wallowing in our loss is not productive."

Iryna Ushakova, a Ukrainian whose father died in the World Trade Center, is looking for closure.

"Life goes on," she says. "Ten years is a good time to say goodbye to all that we've been through, a good time to turn the page to a new era."

Ushakova moved to the U.K. after receiving a scholarship from the British Council to dependents of Sept. 11 victims. She set up a folk band, which released a song to mark the 10th anniversary called "The Journey to Ground Zero." The music has helped her heal.

This year, she and her family will travel to New York to attend the memorial ceremony.

"When he was killed, you realize you can't control everything in your life," she says. "I always wanted to do music. ... And I thought, `I have to do it now. There may not be a tomorrow.'"

Nine years after struggling through that first anniversary ceremony in Washington, Simon Kennedy is ready to return. He and his brother will attend a memorial service and visit Arlington National Cemetery, where some of their mother's remains are buried.

This time, he feels prepared for what the day will bring.

"Here in Australia, it's like, `It happened, and it's awful—now let's move on,'" he says. "It certainly has changed us as people, but it doesn't in any way identify who we are."

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Kids with Bush on 9/11 saw change sweep over him

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP)—The 16 children who shared modern America's darkest moment with President George W. Bush are high school seniors now—football players, ROTC members, track athletes, wrestlers and singers.

They remember going over an eight-paragraph story so it would be perfect when they read it to the president on Sept. 11, 2001. They remember how Bush's face suddenly clouded as his chief of staff, Andrew Card, bent down and whispered to him that the U.S. had been attacked. They remember how Bush pressed on with the reading as best he could before sharing the devastating news with the nation.

"It was like a blank stare. Like he knew something was going on but he didn't want to make it too bad for us to notice by looking different," said Lenard Rivers, now a 17-year-old football player at Sarasota High.

What the students can't say for sure is how that moment changed them. They were just second-graders. Their memories were only beginning.

"I think we all matured maybe a little bit," said Chantal Guerrero, now a 17-year-old senior at Sarasota Military Academy. "... But since we were only 7, I'm not sure what kind of impact it had, because we didn't know how things were before."

Lazaro Dubrocq, now a 17-year-old senior and captain of the wrestling team at Sarasota's Riverview High School, said it wouldn't be until middle school when he started seriously pondering his place in the chaotic events of Sept. 11.

"I was too young and naive to fully understand the gravity of the situation," said Dubrocq, who is headed to Columbia University to study chemical engineering next year. "As I began to age and mature, it helped me gain a new perspective of the world and it helped me mature faster as I began to understand that there are politics and wars and genocides that occur daily throughout the world. It helped me come to a realization that the world is not a perfect place."

Sept. 11, 2001, was a steamy Tuesday in southwest Florida. The children were sitting in two neat rows in room 301 of Emma E. Booker Elementary School. Bush planned to sit in the classroom with them before moving to the media center to talk about a national reading initiative.

Booker Elementary, in a low-income area of Sarasota, was chosen for the Bush visit because Principal Gwen Tose'-Rigell had turned it into a high-performing school. As presidential trips go, it was routine, mundane even. The children were chosen because they were some of the best readers.

Tose'-Rigell, who died of cancer in 2007, told The Associated Press in 2002 that Bush knew when he arrived at the school that some kind of plane had hit one of the World Trade Center towers in New York. But the news was sketchy, and the decision was made to proceed with the program at Booker.

The moment when Card whispered to the president about the terrorist attack came when the children were reaching under their desks for a book called Reading Mastery II. On Page 153 was "The Pet Goat," the story the children read aloud as the president followed along with his own copy.

As they began the story, some of the children sensed something was different about the president.

"One kid described his face as (like) he had to use the bathroom," Guerrero said. "That's how we saw it in second grade. He just looked like he got the worst news in the world."

Teacher Kay Daniels was sitting next to Bush and knew something was amiss when Card came out of the adjoining classroom and approached the president. Everything about the day was so choreographed, and that wasn't supposed to happen.

"I had 16 little ones sitting in front of me, the media in the back of the classroom, and I had to keep going," said Daniels, now a reading teacher at a Sarasota middle school. "Emotionally, (Bush) left us, but he came back. He did come back into the lesson, and he picked up the book and for a moment he stayed with us."

Bush dissected those moments recently in an interview with the National Geographic TV channel.

"At the back of the room, reporters were on their cell phones. They were getting the same message I got, which meant a lot of people would be watching my reaction to this crisis," he said. "So I made a decision not to jump up immediately and leave the classroom. I didn't want to rattle the kids. I wanted to project a sense of calm."

After the story, Bush quickly shook hands with the children and left each with some M&Ms in a box bearing the presidential seal. Then he disappeared into the adjoining classroom, which had been set up as a command center for the visit. Minutes later in the media center, he stepped up to the podium and told the country about the attacks.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is a difficult moment for America," Bush began. Teachers and students standing closest to him could see tears well in his eyes.

Just behind him, visible in most of the photos and video footage of the speech, stood Stevenson Tose'-Rigell, the principal's son. He was a fifth-grader whose class was chosen to be on the riser with the president during the speech about the reading initiative.

Now a 20-year-old college student, Tose'-Rigell said his mother had staunchly defended Bush against criticism that he didn't get up and act quickly enough after being told of the attacks. Filmmaker Michael Moore used the classroom footage in 2004 documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11," showing Bush continuing to sit after getting the news from Card.

"She knows kids, obviously, and she knows how kids react, and Bush did the best that he could by remaining calm, not going hysterical or anything like that and really just making a smooth transition," Tose'-Rigell said. "Overall, she was pretty much content with the way things happened."

The rest of the day at Booker was a flurry of activity. Frantic parents came and scooped up their children, thinking the school might be a target for an attack because Bush had been there. Daniels, the teacher, made the remaining second-graders sit down and watch news coverage of the attacks and tried to explain what had happened.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

2nd AMENDED NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **DRAINAGE SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT/ UPGRADE, FRANCISCO C. ADA SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-62/65/67, CPA-SA-003-09.**

Sealed Proposals will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of the Drainage System Improvement/Upgrade to include the replacement of the damaged roof waterproofing with existing insulation board and diversion of the roof drain all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be in 240 calendar days. The contractor shall be assessed with the liquidated damages in the amount of $500/day if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-24 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CONFERENCE ROOM, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, ~~**10:00 AM, AUGUST 12, 2011**~~, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will follow right after the pre-bid conference. Attendance is mandatory to all prospective bidders. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference. Contractors are required to attend the pre-bid meeting.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are encouraged to use the CD bid schedule form. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: September 8, 2011

Join us this SATURDAY morning, SEPTEMBER 10, for a fun-filled walk with PSS!
LIVE HEALTHY:
a life Walk
with
PSS
Registration Information:
Saipan: 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – 13 Fisherman Pavilion
Tinian: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Tachog'na Beach
Rota: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Rota JSHS Campus

Business

Obama's best jobs plan might be status quo

WASHINGTON (AP)—First, do no harm. Economists say the most important part of the jobs plan President Barack Obama will unveil Thursday night is the renewal of two measures already in place—a cut in Social Security taxes and emergency aid for the unemployed.

His new proposals, like spending more for transportation projects and cutting taxes for companies that hire the unemployed, probably wouldn't add many jobs, they say. Not soon, anyway.

"These are not bold, new, big programs," says Nariman Behravesh, chief economist with IHS Global Insight. "You put everything together, it's going to be pretty small."

The job market needs big help. In August, the economy generated zero job growth. And the unemployment rate is 9.1 percent, a level more typical for a recession than for a recovery in its third year.

For Obama, who also faces sinking approval ratings as he goes before a joint session of Congress and on national TV, the options are limited. Congress must approve any new measures, and congressional Republicans oppose new spending.

"Anything that would be of a big enough size to really help the labor market is going to have trouble getting through Congress," says Michael Hanson, senior economist at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. "And anything that can get through Congress will be too small to be much help."

Obama

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, International Monetary Fund chief Christine Lagarde and other economists have urged Congress to do more to help job growth and the economy over the next year or two—and worry about cutting spending later.

Economist Barry Bosworth of the Brookings Institution, for example, says the government needs to spend $700 billion to $800 billion a year to generate healthy job growth.

Obama's plan was still being shaped Wednesday. Here are the ideas the White House is considering:

- Extending, for one year, a cut in the payroll tax that supports Social Security. The cut, part of a deal struck last December by Obama and Republicans, reduces the tax to 4.2 percent from 6.2 percent on the first $106,800 a person makes. That amounts to $1,000 a year for someone earning $50,000.

Keeping the tax cut would cost the government $110 billion to $115 billion. The research firm Macroeconomic Advisers estimates it would support 400,000 jobs in 2012. The theory: More money in people's pockets increases demand for goods and services across the economy, and businesses have to have enough workers to keep up.

The problem is that keeping the tax cut doesn't create jobs where they didn't exist before.

"It's in the `Do no harm' camp," says economist Heidi Shierholz of the Economic Policy Institute. "We have that support now, so it's not going to gain us anything. It's just a matter of: If we let it go, we lose."

Critics of this approach also point out that the extra money in people's paychecks this year has mostly been eaten up by higher gasoline prices.

Shocker: Power demand from US homes is falling

NEW YORK (AP)—American homes are more cluttered than ever with devices, and they all need power: Cellphones and iPads that have to be charged, DVRs that run all hours, TVs that light up in high definition.

But something shocking is happening to demand for electricity in the Age of the Gadget: It's leveling off.

Over the next decade, experts expect residential power use to fall, reversing an upward trend that has been almost uninterrupted since Thomas Edison invented the modern light bulb.

In part it's because Edison's light bulb is being replaced by more efficient types of lighting, and electric devices of all kinds are getting much more efficient. But there are other factors.

New homes are being built to use less juice, and government subsidies for home energy savings programs are helping older homes use less power. In the short term, the tough economy and a weak housing market are prompting people to cut their usage.

As a result, many families can expect their monthly bills to remain in check, even if power prices rise. For utility executives, who can no longer bank on ever-growing demand, a major shift is under way: They're finding ways to profit when people use less power.

"It's already having an impact and we may just be in the early innings of this," says Michael Lapides, a utilities analyst at Goldman Sachs.

From 1980 to 2000, residential power demand grew by about 2.5 percent a year. From 2000 to 2010, the growth rate slowed to 2 percent. Over the next 10 years, demand is expected to decline by about 0.5 percent a year, according to the Electric Power Research Institute, a nonprofit group funded by the utility industry.

Overall demand, including from factories and businesses, is still expected to grow, but at only a 0.7 percent annual rate through 2035, the government says. That's well below the average of 2.5 percent a year the past four decades.

Utility executives have been aware that the rate of demand growth is slowing, but a more dramatic shift than they expected may be under way. Executives were particularly surprised by a dip during the first three months of this year, the most recent national quarterly numbers available. Adjusted for the effects of weather, residential power demand fell 1.3 percent nationwide, an unusually sharp drop.

Executives and analysts are perplexed because residential demand doesn't usually track economic ups and downs very closely. Even when the economy is stagnant, people still watch TV and keep their ice cream cold.

Geoanne Marie Nuique Elnar
P.O. Box 500713
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 483-1125

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Change of Name of:	]	**FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0364**
GEONNE MARIE NUIQUE ELNAR, Petitioner.	]	**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on September 22, 2011, at 10:00am in Courtroom 217A, before Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2011.

BERNADITA SABLAN

Clerk of Court
By: /s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,	]	**Civil Action No. 06-0324-CV**
vs.	]	**NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**
FRANCISCO A. AGUON and ROSALIA M. AGUON, Defendants.	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 15th day of November, 2010, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 16th day of September, 2011 at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 1051, located on Saipan, containing an area of 902 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey's Plat No. 011 G 19 dated December 3, 1993 and recorded on December 9, 1993 as File No. 93-4287 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 1st day of August, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff,	]	**Civil Action No. 06-0329-CV**
vs.	]	**NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**
DEWAYNE I. SABLAN and KATHERINE B. VILLANUEVA, Defendants.	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 12th day of November, 2010, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the judgment, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the 16th day of September, 2011 at 10 a.m., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room, Capitol Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 915, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 18, the original of which was recorded on December 9, 1993 as Document No. 93-4286 as the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to MPLT.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and MPLT reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 1st day of August, 2011.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC BID#: IFB 11-0002

TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL SERVICES

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Termite and Pest Control Services.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday (August 22, 2011) to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m. September 19, 2011, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. You may request a copy of the IFB 11-0002 packet via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

Sealed bids must be marked "NMC IFB 11-0002" for bidders within the CNMI, an original and 4 copies of sealed bids must be submitted to NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, no later than 10:00 a.m local time September 19, 2011. Bidders outside the CNMI may obtain an additional (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of intent to bid. Notice of intent to bid must be received by the Procurement and Property Manager no later than 10:00am local time September 19, 2011 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 235-7601 or via email to anitac@nmcnet.edu. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and 4 copy of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 19, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, As Terlaje Campus on September 19, 2011 at 1:30pm. However, if notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at September 27, 2011 at 1:300pm.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ John D. Guerrero
Facilities Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges

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Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC BID#: IFB 11-0003

AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Termite and Pest Control Services.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday (August 22, 2011) to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m. September 20, 2011, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. You may request a copy of the IFB 11-0003 packet via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

Sealed bids must be marked "NMC IFB 11-0003" for bidders within the CNMI, an original and 4 copies of sealed bids must be submitted to NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, no later than 10:00 a.m local time September 20, 2011. Bidders outside the CNMI may obtain an additional (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of intent to bid. Notice of intent to bid must be received by the Procurement and Property Manager no later than 10:00am local time September 20, 2011 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 235-7601 or via email to anitac@nmcnet.edu. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and 4 copy of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 20, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, As Terlaje Campus on September 20, 2011 at 1:30pm. However, if notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at September 28, 2011 at 1:300pm.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ John D. Guerrero
Facilities Manager

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Nation

Shooting victims loved history, fitness, cupcakes

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP)—One was an Iraq War veteran who loved military history. Another was an Afghanistan war vet and fitness buff. Still another would bring in cupcakes for colleagues when they got promotions.

All of them were National Guard members and they were sitting at a table at a Nevada IHOP when a gunman burst in and began shooting. All three died in the attack, a death toll that matched the total number of Nevada guardsmen killed in Iraq and Afghanistan over a decade. A patron was also killed.

"This is unquestionably the most devastating attack in Carson City's history," Sheriff Kenny Furlong said on Wednesday. "Yesterday our town was shocked to the core."

Exactly what set gunman Eduardo Sencion, 32, off—and whether the grocery store employee had some kind of grudge against the military—remained unclear. He killed himself after the shooting.

Family members told police that Sencion was mentally troubled, but he did not have a criminal history.

South Lake Tahoe police said the department took Sencion into protective custody during a mental health commitment in April 2000 and that he fought with officers. He was not charged.

The Lake Tahoe News first reported the incident.

No court order was involved, Lt. David Stevenson told The Associated Press. He said officers have the authority under state law to take individuals into protective custody if they determine the person poses a danger to themselves or others.

No weapon was involved in the incident, said Stevenson, who declined to release any other details because the Carson City shooting investigation remains active.

Art Panchal runs a South Lake Tahoe motel near the small Mexican market where Sencion worked, which is owned by Sencion's family.

Panchal visits the market to buy jalapenos, tortillas and fish, and saw Sencion on those shopping trips.

AP

Eduardo Sencion, 32, seen in a photo provided by the Carson City Sheriff's Office, is the suspect in a shooting rampage at an IHOP restaurant in Carson City, Nev., on Tuesday morning, Sept. 6, 2011.

"He was a happy guy. He was always smiling," Panchal said. "He would help people out."

When Panchal heard media reports about the shooting, "I was shocked."

"I was totally surprised," said Panchal, who has operated the National 9 Inn for six years. "I don't know why he freaked out."

Authorities on Wednesday released the 911 calls made from in and around the IHOP. They painted a picture of a frantic scene, as witnesses described the gunman firing his gun.

"There's a shooting in the IHOP! Get there right now!" yelled caller Ralph Swagler, owner of Local's BBQ next door, as shots rang out in the background.

"Now he's coming back out. He's shooting people in the parking lot! He's shooting at us now!"

A female caller instructed the dispatcher to bring "several" ambulances.

Kathy Chaney, of Dayton, Nev., was inside the IHOP, just feet away from the National Guard members.

Chaney was sitting with five relatives and a child she was caring for when she heard the "biggest and loudest pops that I've ever heard in my whole life."

Chaney said she put her hands to her ears and got under the table as the gunman rapidly fired dozens of shots, shattering a glass partition that separated her family from the soldiers who were killed.

"If it had not been for that glass, we would have all been shot in the head," she said.

"I heard screaming. I heard glass shattering. I heard a woman moaning, and when I was on the floor I just kind of looked up," she said. "... I just saw debris flying, it was almost like in slow motion—like confetti."

Chaney said that as she huddled beneath the table, three men who work for a cable company took charge and started yelling for those inside to leave the restaurant through an emergency exit.

"We could tell that the gunshots were getting closer. And so I had no idea where it was coming from or where he was, and I thought for sure I was going to get shot," she said.

She knocked over a high chair where the 2 1/2-year-old girl she was caring for was sitting, then carried the girl out of the restaurant while crouching. As she left the building, "I was still hearing gunfire," Chaney said.

"It really is just such a miracle, by the grace of God, that we're alive today," Chaney said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Lee's remnants bring fresh flood worries to East

WINDHAM, N.Y. (AP)—Drenched and dispirited, East Coast residents recovering from Hurricane Irene were stuck under the chugging remnants of Tropical Storm Lee Wednesday, some of them grudgingly preparing to move to higher ground yet again as rivers rose. From Maryland to New England, heavy rains swelled waterways, flooded highways and stretched emergency responders already dealing with cleanup from last week's punishing blow from Irene. Sodden ground gave rain nowhere to go but directly into streams, creeks and rivers that rushed a turbid red-brown past rural communities. "Now it's getting on my last nerves," said Carol Slater, 53, of Huntersfield, N.Y., on the northern edge of New York's Catskill Mountains and just outside of hard-hit Prattsville.

Firefighters gain ground against Texas wildfire

BASTROP, Texas (AP)—Firefighters gained ground Wednesday against one of the most destructive wildfires in Texas history even as the number of homes lost reached almost 800, and an elite search team set out to find any victims in the smoking ruins. Gov. Rick Perry, meanwhile, resumed his presidential campaign after rushing home over the weekend to deal with the crisis, traveling to California to meet his Republican rivals Wednesday night in his first nationally televised debate. The blaze has left at least two people dead—their bodies were found on Tuesday—blackened about 45 square miles around Bastrop and cast a haze over Austin, 25 miles to the east, where the air smelled strongly of pine and cedar.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan.** The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMARY MATTERS
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. MORTGAGE CREDIT PROGRAM
- a. Purchased RD Loans Update
- b. Other Loan Matters
- c. USDA/RD Officials

IV. PROGRAM & HOUSING
- a. Multi-Family Program Update

V. FISCAL AFFAIRS
- a. Travel Policy
- b. Amended Budget for FY 2012
- c. Financial Statement
- d. FY 2010 Audit Update

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VII. OTHER MATTERS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/S/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

OPENING DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2011 • CLOSING DATE: OCTOBER 7, 2011 TIME: 4:30 PM

SALARY RANGE IS GRADE LEVEL 33, STEP 01 AT $26,131.390 TO STEP 05 AT $31,757.680

"ROTA FIELD OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE"

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Jocelyn S. Kaipat, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to jskaipat@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director

LAURIE A. LOOMIS #3716
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 2850
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: (808) 524-5066
Petitioner

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

STATE OF HAWAII

In the Interest of	
John Doe,	
A Male Child,	**TPR NO. 11-1-6002**
Born on July 19, 2007.	

NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

STATE OF HAWAII
TO: Unknown legal but not natural father
Whose last known address is unknown.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition for termination of you parental rights in and to a male child, born on July 19, 2007 to Xiang Lan Jin aka Jin Xiang Lan has been filed in the Family Court.

YOU ARE HEARBY FURTHER NOTIFIED that a hearing on the petition will be heard in the Family Court, 4675 Kapolei Parkway, Kapolei, Hawaii on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

YOU ARE HEREBY ADVISED that if you fail to appear on the date set forth in this notice or to file a written answer with Family Court, whose mailing address is 4675 Kapolei Parkway, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707 (Attn: Special Division Calendar Clerk) before the date of hearing, further action may be taken without further notice to you, and your parental and custodial duties and rights concerning the subject child may be terminated and such child may then be placed for adoption.

Failure to obey this notice may result in the entry of default and a default judgment against you.

This notice shall not be personally delivered between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. on premises not open to the public, unless a judge of the Family Court permits, in writing on this notice, personal delivery during those hours.

Dated: Kapolei, Hawaii, **Aug. 23, 2011**

/s/ A. DANBARA
Clerk of the above-entitled Court

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and other applicable state and federal laws, if you require a reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Disability Accommodations Coordinator at the First Judicial Circuit, Chief Court Administrator's Office 539-4400, FAX 539-4402 or TTY 539-4853, at least ten (10) working days prior to your hearing or appointment date.

LAURIE A. LOOMIS #3716
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 2850
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Telephone: (808) 524-5066
Petitioner

IN THE FAMILY COURT OF THE FIRST CIRCUIT

STATE OF HAWAII

In the Interest of	
John Doe,	
A Male Child,	**TPR NO. 11-1-6003**
Born on July 19, 2007.	

NOTICE OF TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING

STATE OF HAWAII
TO: Unknown natural but not legal father
Whose last known address is unknown.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition for termination of you parental rights in and to a male child, born on July 19, 2007 to Xiang Lan Jin aka Jin Xiang Lan has been filed in the Family Court.

YOU ARE HEARBY FURTHER NOTIFIED that a hearing on the petition will be heard in the Family Court, 4675 Kapolei Parkway, Kapolei, Hawaii on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

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NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NOTICE OF AUCTION
IN THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, hereinafter referred to as NMHC, as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all of the rights, title, and interests of the following described real property situated in As Matuis, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

Lot No. 045 A 064, containing an area of 949 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat Number 045 A 003 dated July 12, 1989, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 90-1671, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference, together with the improvements and fixtures located thereon and therein and the appurtenances and all the rights, title, and interest of, in, and to the land lying in all streets, highways, and rights of ways abutting on or appurtenant to said premises.

Minimum Bid: The minimum bid for the property mentioned above in this notice shall be $80,000.00.

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
2. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, auctioneer and seller shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
3. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Joshua T. Sasamoto, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facsimile: 234-9021; or to Mr. Vicente T. Salas, Esq., P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-7455; Facsimile: 234-7256.
4. Deposit: Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC.
5. Change of Terms: Auctioneer and NMHC reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
6. Inspection and No Warranty: Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact NMHC for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 19th day of August, 2011.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO, Corporate Director

World

Jet with hockey team crashes in Russia, killing 43

TUNOSHNA, Russia (AP)—A private jet carrying a Russian professional hockey team to its first game of the season crashed shortly after takeoff Wednesday, killing 43 people—including European and former NHL players—in one of the worst aviation disasters in sports history. Two people survived the accident.

The crash also was the latest tragedy to befall the sport of hockey—following the sudden, offseason deaths of three of the NHL's tough-guy enforcers that has shocked fans.

The chartered Yak-42 jet was carrying the team—Lokomotiv Yaroslavl—to Minsk, the capital of Belarus, where it was to play Thursday in its opening game of the Kontinental Hockey League season. Of the 45 people on board, 36 were players, coaches and team officials; eight were crew.

The plane apparently struggled to gain altitude and then hit a signal tower before breaking apart along the Volga River near Yaroslavl, 150 miles (240 kilometers) northeast of Moscow. One of the blue-and-white plane's charred engines poked through the surface of the shallow water.

"This is the darkest day in the history of our sport," said Rene Fasel, president of the International Ice Hockey Federation. "This is not only a Russian tragedy—the Lokomotiv roster included players and coaches from 10 nations."

One player—identified as Russian Alexander Galimov—and one unidentified crew member were hospitalized in "very grave" condition, said Alexander Degyatryov, chief doctor at Yaroslavl's Solovyov Hospital.

Among the dead were Lokomotiv coach and NHL veteran Brad McCrimmon, a Canadian; assistant coach Alexander Karpovtsev, one of the first Russians to have his name etched on the Stanley Cup as a member of the New York Rangers; and Pavol Demitra, who played for the St. Louis Blues and the Vancouver Canucks and was the Slovakian national team captain.

Other standouts killed were Czech players Josef Vasicek, Karel Rachunek and Jan Marek, Swedish goalie Stefan Liv, Latvian defenseman Karlis Skrastins and defenseman Ruslan Salei of Belarus.

Russian NHL star Alex Ovechkin reflected the anguish that resonated through the sport of hockey when he tweeted: "I'm in shock!!!!!R.I.P."

"Though it occurred thousands of miles away from our home arenas, this tragedy represents a catastrophic loss to the hockey world—including the NHL family, which lost so many fathers, sons, teammates and friends," NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said in a statement.

The NHL already has been mourning three unexpected deaths of players in recent months, including a suicide and an accidental drug overdose. The cause of the crash was not immediately apparent, but Russian news agencies cited local officials as saying it may have been due to technical problems. The plane was built in 1993 and belonged to a small Moscow-based company, Yak Service.

Confusion in Libya over Gadhafi's whereabouts

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—A Tripoli military official said Wednesday that Moammar Gadhafi is cornered and the days before he is captured or killed are numbered, but another senior defense official contended that Libya's new rulers have no idea where the fugitive former leader is.

The comments are the latest in a series of conflicting statements on the most pressing question still haunting the North African nation—where is Gadhafi?

The ousted leader, who ruled Libya for nearly 42 years, hasn't been seen in public for months, and has released only audio messages trying to rally his supporters and lash out at his opponents. He went into hiding after opposition fighters swept into Tripoli on Aug. 21. The former rebels are still battling regime loyalists in three Gadhafi strongholds—Bani Walid, Sabha and Sirte.

Hunting down Gadhafi would help seal the new rulers' hold on the country, and likely trigger the collapse of the remaining regime loyalists still fighting the former rebels.

Anis Sharif, a spokesman for Tripoli's military council, told The Associated Press that Gadhafi was still in Libya and had been tracked using advanced technology and human intelligence. Rebel forces have taken up positions on all sides of the fugitive leader's presumed location, with none more than 40 miles (60 kilometers) away, he said, without elaborating.

"He can't get out," said Sharif, who added the former rebels are preparing to either detain him or kill him. "We are just playing games with him," he said.

He said an operations room manned by about 20 people has been set up in Tripoli to try to track Gadhafi's movements and coordinate the search.

Thousands of fighters have converged on areas outside Bani Walid, some 90 miles (140 kilometers) southeast of Tripoli, and have threatened to attack if residents don't surrender by Saturday. Officials have said the town emerged as a focus because of the number of prominent regime loyalists believed to be inside.

More truckloads of former rebels arrived Wednesday outside Bani Walid, a dusty city of 100,000 strung along the low ridges overlooking a dried up desert river valley on the road connecting Sirte and Sabha.

Abdullah Kenshil, the chief negotiator for the rebels in Bani Walid, told reporters outside a field clinic in Wishtat that Gadhafi's son and one-time heir apparent Seif al-Islam appears to be one of those hiding in the area.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bomb in India capital kills 11, deadliest in years

NEW DELHI (AP)—A briefcase bomb tore through a crowd of people waiting to enter a New Delhi courthouse, killing 11 people and wounding scores more Wednesday in the deadliest terrorist attack in India's capital in nearly three years. An al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility, though government officials said it was too early to name a suspect. The attack outside the High Court came despite a high alert across the city and renewed doubts about India's ability to protect even its most important institutions despite overhauling security after the 2008 Mumbai siege.

Filipino terror suspect likely with splinter group

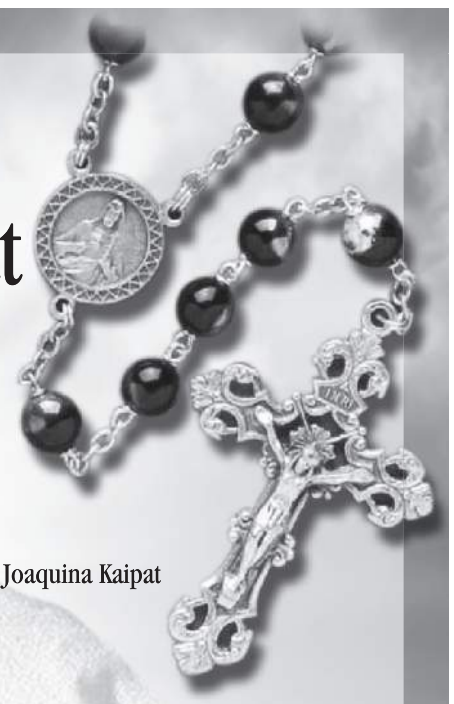
MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A key Filipino terrorist suspect wanted by the U.S. for deadly bomb attacks may have joined a new rebel faction that split from the Philippines' largest Muslim insurgent group, officials and rebels said Thursday. Moro Islamic Liberation Front spokesman Von Al Haq said his group has received information that Abdul Basit Usman has been seen in the southern Philippines with the forces of Ameril Umbra Kato, the breakaway guerrilla who vowed to carry on the battle for a separate Muslim homeland. Usman is wanted in the Philippines for his alleged role in a series of bombings and links to the Southeast Asian militant network Jemaah Islamiyah.

In Celebration of His New Life

Antonio Litulumar Kaipat

Retired Police Lieutenant

May 20, 1952—September 03, 2011



In His New Life, He Now Joins His:

Parents: Mariano Borja Kaipat & Guadalupe Litulumar Kaipat

Parents In-Law: Manuel Manibusan Castro & Maria Jones Castro

Brothers/Sisters: Daniel L. Kaipat, Francisco L. Kaipat, Maria Kaipat, Aunora Kaipat, Joaquina Kaipat

Brothers & Sister In-Law: Juan J. Castro, Joaquin J. Castro, Margarita J. Castro

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Celina Castro Kaipat

Children/Spouse:

Lynette Castro/Alfred Gonzales (Thomas, Isabel, Tammie, Angel, Denzel, Alfred Jr. & Maria)
Evelyn/Lawrence Concepcion (J.J., Jonathan & Balbina)
John C. Pangelinan (Clayton, John II & Noecia)
Antoinette Kaipat/Jesse Wabol (Yalina & Wallis)
Pearl Kaipat/Shaun Santos (Ignacio & Sinahi)
Antonio Kaipat II/Magdalena Flores (Cassidee)

Reared Children: Bonifacio J. Castro II & Francisco A. Villagomez

Brothers/Sisters
†Francisco/Jacinta Kaipat
Diego/Damiana Kaipat
Clotilde/Tobias Aldan
Isabel/Dennis Davis
Josepha L. Kaipat
Jose/Marianne Kaipat
Ricardo/Merslynn Kaipat
Emery/Elizabeth Kaipat

Reared Sister: Juliana S. Kaipat

Brothers/Sisters In-Law:
†Margarita J. Castro
Joseph /Marilyn Jones
Manuel Castro Jr.
†Juan/Nancy Castro
Juanet/John Dela Cruz
†Joaquin/Elisa Castro
Bonifacio Castro/Maria Olaitaman
Bernadita/Pedro Manalo
Daniel/Dorothy Castro
Rosita Castro
Benjamin/Vivian Castro
Eddie/Roberta Castro

He is also survived by his nine (9) god-children and numerous relatives and friends.

Nightly rosary is being said at 7:30 p.m. at their residence in Piligro Lane, San Roque. Daily Mass of intention is also offered at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 a.m.

Funeral Services will be announced at a later date.

Olomwaay, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank You
Ginen I Asagua-ña yan I Familia

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Black Widow eats 183 chicken wings in NY contest

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—The Black Widow of eating contests has scarfed down 183 chicken wings in 12 minutes to break her own world record set last year in Buffalo, N.Y. Sonya Thomas took home first place Sunday at the tenth annual National Buffalo Wings Festival. She beat eating marvel Joey "Jaws" Chestnut, who came in second with 174 wings. The two won titles at the July Fourth hot dog eating contest on Coney Island. The 100-pound Thomas of Alexandria, Va., is the reigning wing-eating champion. She downed 181 wings to win the 2010 contest. Chestnut of San Jose, Calif., settled for second with 169 wings. The winner gets $1,500. The runner-up wins $750, and third place gets $300. Thomas is called the Black Widow becomes she often beats male competitors in eating contests.

Man steals 8-foot whale tooth from Norway museum

OSLO, Norway (AP)—The tooth fairy in disguise? No, just a simple tooth thief. A man dressed in a black leather hat and a dark coat on Wednesday ran off with an eight-foot (2.5 meter) whale tooth from a museum in the Norwegian city Stavanger. Museum official Atle Fiskaa says the tooth was more than 100 years old and valued at around $9,300. Fiskaa says the thief was between 40 and 50 years old and took off with the tooth together with a big, white dog that he had left outside the museum before entering. The incident has been reported to police, who are searching for the thief.

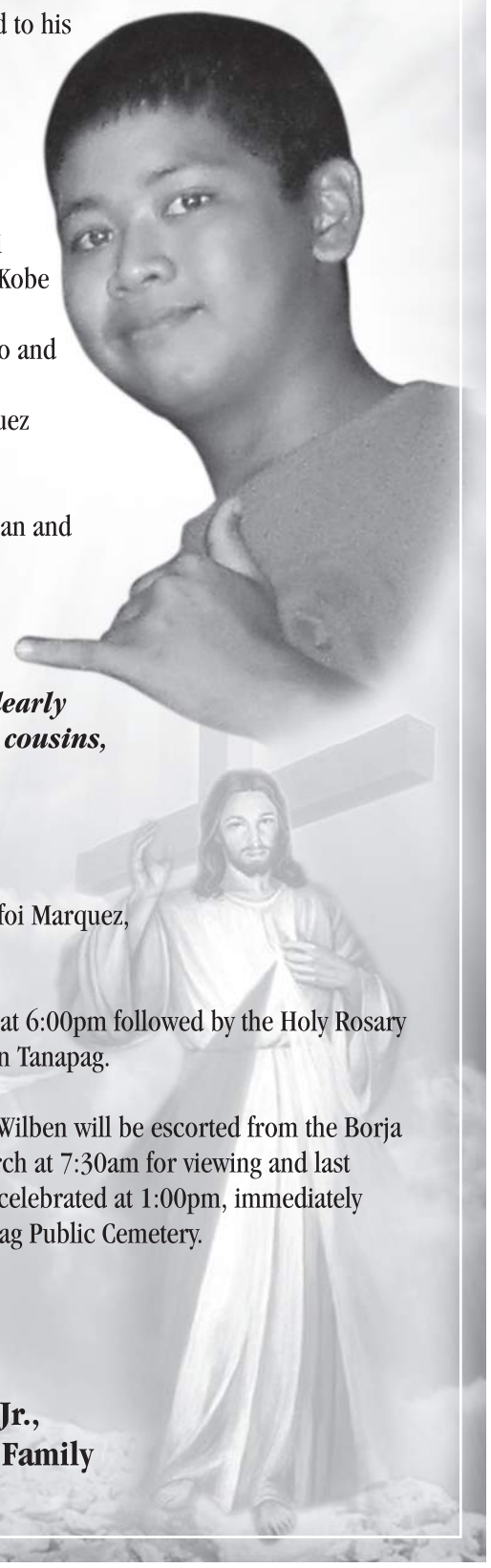
UMass welcomes students with world record stir-fry

AMHERST, Mass. (AP)—It wasn't just a record, it was delicious and nutritious. Staff and students at the University of Massachusetts celebrated the start of the new semester on Monday by making the world's largest stir-fry. Using a custom-built, 14-foot-frying pan, the 4,010-pound meal included 800 pounds of chicken, 500 pounds of onions, 400 pounds of carrots, 300 pounds of broccoli as well as peppers, green beans, bok choy, peanuts, basil and garlic. It was cooked in 50 pounds of canola oil. Ken Toong, executive director of Auxiliary Enterprises at UMass-Amherst, says the purpose was to stress sustainability and promoting healthy eating as many of the vegetables were grown at a student-run farm. A Guinness Book of World Records representative was on hand to certify the record. The previous record was 2,319 pounds.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

Wilben Herman T. Lieto

Born to life on March 27, 1996, was called to his Eternal rest on September 1, 2011.



His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Parents: Joseph Lifoifoi and Annjuilet Tudela Lieto Lifoifoi
Brothers: Joseph Jr., Francisco Jimmy, Kobe

Maternal Grandparents: William Taitano and Julie Tudela Lieto
Paternal Grandparent: Rosalia L. Marquez
Paternal Grandparents: Joaquin and Magdalena San Nicolas
Paternal–Reared Grandparents: Herman and Donata L. Taitano
Godparents: Kent Kalen and Bobbie B. Dela Cruz

He is also survived by and will be dearly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and classmates.

In His new life, He now joins his:
Paternal Grandfather: Jimmy Marquez
Uncles: Wilgene Tudela Lieto, Jimmy Lifoifoi Marquez, Patrick Acosta Blas

Mass of Intentions is being offered nightly at 6:00pm followed by the Holy Rosary at 7:00pm at the Santa Remedios Church in Tanapag.

On Friday, September 09, 2011, our dear Wilben will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to the Santa Remedios Church at 7:30am for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1:00pm, immediately followed by interment service at the Tanapag Public Cemetery.

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

From Joseph, Annjuliet, Joseph Jr., Francisco, Kobe, and the entire Family

Technology

Fix-It Windows utilities are bargain

By NOAH MATTHEWS
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

At last count, there are at least a dozen decent Swiss Army-type collections of utilities that promise to protect your computer from viruses and other nasty PC problems. If you do your computing on a Mac, you don't need any of them. But for those of us who use a Windows PC, each has its own suite of programs, and they're worth considering.

Fix-It Utilities Professional joins that crowded field of Windows utilities, and I have mixed feelings about it. The program offers more features than a comparable program from Norton, for example, but some of the utilities, such as a clock synchronizer, seem superfluous. Still, if it's a bargain you want, Fix-It is a lot cheaper ($50 vs. $80 for Norton).

Here's what Fix-It Utilities Pro will do:

It will download the latest virus definitions and scan your hard drive to get rid of all manner of viruses and other nasties. It will fix registry problems, clean up your hard drive of clutter, download the latest Windows updates, recover deleted files, shred files permanently, optimize your system so that you can play games better and, obviously, speed up everyday computing. It promises to make your browser run faster and holds your hand when your computer crashes so that you can get up and running again. It can be used as a rescue CD if you can't boot up.

When you run it for the first time, it will scan your PC and fix what ails it, including registry problems and viruses. It will help you organize the files on your hard drive, and it comes with something you won't get with most CDs these days: a printed manual. It can be run on three PCs, and it includes some bonus software such as Driver Genius, which I reviewed recently. You'll be nagged to get the latest version when you install the program, which is version 11 (I am reviewing version 9).

How to restore 'restore'

By ANNE KRISHNAN
THE NEWS&OBSERVER

QUESTION: I seem to have lost the restore function on my computer. Clicking on "system restore" in "performance and maintenance" from the control panel does nothing. What can I do to restore this function to my Windows XP system?—L.K., Raleigh, N.C.

ANSWER: System restore is a handy function that allows you to roll back your system to a point in time before you downloaded a virus, for example, or deleted an important file. Microsoft support offers several solutions if system restore doesn't run.

Start by going to update.microsoft.com to install any system updates. If you are prompted, restart the computer. After the computer restarts, click "Start," "All programs," "Accessories," "System Tools" and "System Restore" to see if it's working.

If that doesn't work, you also might want to try making sure that system restore is enabled on the drives where you want it enabled. Click start, right-click "My Computer" and then click "Properties."

Click the "System Restore" tab. If it is enabled, the "Status" column of the drive will show "Monitoring." If not, you can uncheck the "Turn off system restore" box and then click "OK" to enable it.

Finally, you can make sure you have enough disk space on the drives where system restore is enabled. To check for free disk space, Microsoft says, click "Start," then "Run" and type diskmgmt.msc. Press "Enter."

Look at the free space in each drive that system restore is monitoring. If free space on any partition falls lower than 50MB, system restore will suspend. It will resume monitoring when free disk space reaches 200 MB.

■ ■ ■ ■

Q: From time to time (sometimes once a day, sometimes repeatedly throughout the day), my computer mouse freezes and I have to reboot to start it again. You can imagine how much time and work I lose with this problem. I have used AVG to clean up my system every way I know and downloaded Registry Mechanic and have run all those programs. Afterwards, for two or three days, I had no problems, then it all started up again. What can I do?—T.J., Godwin, N.C.

A: A problem like this is most often a hardware problem, not a software issue, said Paul Rosenberg of Love Your Computer in Chapel Hill, N.C.

If it is just the mouse freezing and you find the keyboard responsive, the next step would be to try another mouse, he said. You also can try the same mouse in a different USB port.

If you are experiencing a complete system freeze and having to hard-boot the computer, you may have a more serious problem such as a failing motherboard or power supply, he said. In that case, you may want to check with your local computer repair shop.

Web nickname inadvertently triggers alert

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I had a problem when I tried to follow your directions for removing the Google Redirect Virus. When I went to the Symantec website you suggested to download the virus removal tool, I was greeted with a page saying that there could be problems with the website. The warning came from Web service "bitly." Should I continue to the site?—Carol Singer, Lakeville, Minn.

ANSWER: Yes, you can continue on to the Symantec page without worrying. I think you got the warning because you visited the Symantec page via a "tinyurl" address that I provided in the column.

What's a tinyurl? The term "URL" originally stood for "uniform resource locator" but has come to mean simply "Web address." You can think of a tinyurl, also called a URL shortener, as a nickname for a real website. Why use a nickname instead of the real Web address? Real Web addresses are often long and complex, while tinyurls are short, making them easy to include in my column or for you to type into a browser.

You got a warning about the tinyurl in my column because URL shorteners have been misused to direct people to malicious websites instead of legitimate ones. As a result, some providers of URL shorteners, such as bitly, warn you when you use a shortened URL that didn't come from them.

Q: The screen on my five-year-old Dell laptop shuts down whenever I plug in the AC adapter. The laptop remains on, but the screen goes black. I checked the PC's battery and replaced its charging cord, but neither solved the problem. The Dell help desk told me the flaw is inside the screen or the PC's main circuit board, and that it would cost $300 to fix. I didn't think it was worth that much to fix a 2006 computer. Is there some PC setting that could be changed?—Serge Choquette, Ottawa, Ontario

A: This isn't a settings issue. Your computer has some serious electrical problems in either the screen or the main circuit board. But you were correct in deciding not to spend $300 to repair a 2006 PC. For that price, you can buy a new laptop.

While it's aggravating to have an otherwise well-behaved PC start to go bad, consider this a gentle warning. You haven't lost any data, and your computer didn't fail at the moment you needed it the most.

Life & Style

Liz Taylor's iconic jewels coming to auction

NEW YORK (AP)—Elizabeth Taylor dazzled the world with her luminous beauty, lavish lifestyle—and an unquenchable passion for diamonds and jewels that was fueled by the great loves of her life.

The late Hollywood star amassed one of the foremost jewelry collections in the world, including a 33.19-carat diamond ring and a 16th century pear-shaped pearl from one of her seven husbands, Richard Burton.

The Associated Press recently viewed about two dozen of her most iconic pieces at Christie's auction house, which is selling her complete jewelry collection, valued at $30 million, in New York on Dec. 13-14.

"These are the top jewels that Elizabeth Taylor received from the great loves of her life, Mike Todd and Richard Burton," said Christie's jewelry expert Rahul Kadakia. "They're from moments in life that were very dear to her," jewels that were purchased in Bulgari in Rome, at Cartier in New York and at auction.

The stories behind them are as priceless as the gems themselves. In a 2002 memoir, "My Love Affair with Jewelry," Taylor took readers on a personal journey of her collection, describing in her own words how she came to own each piece.

"I never, never thought of my jewelry as trophies," she wrote. "I'm here to take care of them and to love them. . When I die and they go off to auction I hope whoever buys them gives them a really good home."

AP

Elizabeth Taylor's emerald and diamond necklace and pendant, attached at the bottom, part of a suite by BVLGARI, a gift of Richard Burton, are shown in this photograph at Christie's, in New York, Thursday, Sept. 1, 2001.

It's an extraordinary collection of rubies, diamonds, emeralds and sapphires in intricate and bold designs.

Among the standouts is the 16th-century La Peregrina, one of the largest and most symmetrically perfect pear-shaped pearls in the world, which Burton purchased for Taylor in 1969 as a Valentine's Day gift.

The two had met in Italy on the set of the 1963 film "Cleopatra," and married for the first time in 1964.

Once part of the Crown Jewels of Spain, the pearl later passed into the hands of Joseph Bonaparte, Napoleon III and the Duke of Abercorn.

When it came up at auction in New York, Burton snapped it up for $37,000, beating out the underbidder, a member of the Spanish Royal family.

Cartier later created a ruby and diamond necklace from which the pearl was suspended, a design that was inspired by the famous Velazquez portraits of Spain's Queen Margarita and Queen Isabel wearing the pearl as a necklace.

It is estimated to fetch $2 million to $3 million.

Taylor, who was married eight times—twice to Burton—died in March at age 79. The couple appeared together in about a dozen films, including "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" in which Taylor played an alcoholic shrew in an emotionally sadomasochistic marriage.

Burton was enamored of historical pieces, and in 1972 purchased the famous 17th-century Taj Mahal diamond pendant for Taylor's 40th birthday. The transaction took place at John F. Kennedy International Airport because the couple didn't have time to run into the city before catching a plane, said Kadakia.

Nick Jonas to replace Daniel Radcliffe on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—Producers looking for someone to replace Daniel Radcliffe on Broadway have landed their prize—a Jonas.

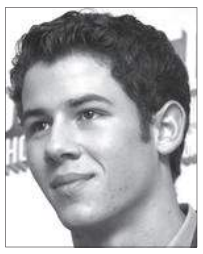
Nick Jonas will step into the role of J. Pierrepont Finch next year in "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying." He begins Jan. 24 and will play the role until July 1.

"This is going to be an exciting journey," the 19-year-old singer and actor said during his unveiling Wednesday at the venerable theater-district hangout Sardi's.

Radcliffe's final performance is set for Jan. 1. Darren Criss of Fox's hit show "Glee" will make his Broadway debut in the role for three weeks, from Jan. 3 to Jan. 22. Then Jonas, the youngest of the three heartthrob siblings, begins.

He's a veteran of the stage, appearing as Little Jake in "Annie Get Your Gun" in 2001 and Chip in "Beauty and the Beast" the following year before playing the young street urchin Gavroche in "Les Miserables" during its final months in 2003, his last time on Broadway. He also played the role of Marius in "Les Miserables" in London last year.

He made his stage debut in 2000 when he was cast in a production of "A Christmas Carol," playing Tiny Tim opposite Frank Langella's Scrooge at Madison Square Garden. His other credits include playing Kurt in "The Sound of Music" at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey. Earlier this year, he was in "Hairspray" at the Hollywood Bowl.



Jonas

"It's great to come back to Broadway," Jonas said. "I always said my return to Broadway would have to feel right—the right role at the right time. This felt right."

Tony and Emmy awards winner Rob Ashford, the director and choreographer of "How to Succeed," suspects that Jonas probably has more experience on stage than many actors in the cast.

"He understands the eight-show-a-week idea, he understands the commitment that it takes, he understands the family, he understands the support everyone gives to each other. It's thrilling for us to have him."

Jonas says he has yet to meet Radcliffe, who opened the role in March, but hopes to soon. "He's an incredible actor and he's doing such a great job with the show, so it will be cool to sit down with him and pick his brain."

Letter from Lincoln being sold by Philly dealer

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—A rare letter is for sale that President Abraham Lincoln wrote to one of his top generals at a turning point of the Civil War. The Raab Collection in Philadelphia is selling the document, which for decades has belonged to an anonymous private collector. The asking price is $100,000.

Lincoln wrote the letter to Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan on Oct. 29, 1862, requesting a progress report. The handwritten note on presidential stationery with "Executive Mansion" printed at the top, states that Lincoln was pleased with the movement of McClellan's Army of the Potomac as it crossed the Potomac River into Loudoun County, Va., and he was closely following its advancement.

The president's battlefield dispatch to McClellan ends: "When you get entirely across the river let me know. What do you know of the enemy?" The letter is signed A. Lincoln.

Though the apparently hastily scrawled note belies Lincoln's dissatisfaction with McClellan's performance, it is the president's final correspondence to the general before relieving him of his command for failing to aggressively pursue Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee since the Battle of Antietam a month earlier.

"This was the last straw for Lincoln, who now came into his own," said Nathan Raab, vice president of The Raab Collection. "He realized that his strategic sense was better than that of his military experts and that he must exert leadership in military matters rather than defer to his generals."

Lincoln's demotion of McClellan on Nov. 5, 1862, was the first of a series of decisions that culminated with the president naming Ulysses S. Grant as his commanding general, a move that ultimately ended the war and brought victory to the North in April 1865. Lincoln was assassinated days afterward.

Four years later, Grant became the 18th president of the United States.

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Contagion
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25
Matt Damon, Marion Cottilard
Action • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Steven Soderbergh presents this look at what happens when an infectious disease threatens humanity through varied viewpoints from an ensemble cast, including Marion Cotillard, Matt Damon, Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow, Laurence Fishburne, and Kate Winslet. The Informant's Scott Z. Burns provides the script.

Apollo 18
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05
Gonzalo López-Gallego, director
Science fiction • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
NASA's cancelled trip to the moon in the 1970s is the basis for this found footage-style picture exploring what if the urban legend were true that the mission actually did occur and the proof of extraterrestrial life exists on film. Wanted's Timur Bekmambetov produces the film, with Spanish director Gonzalo Lopez-Gallego taking on helming duties.

★ ★ ★

Shark Night 2D
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15
Sinqua Walls, Chris Carmack
Horror • Rated PG 13

Don't Be Afraid Of The Dark
Friday 4:30 7:30 9:40
Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:40
Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30
Guy Pearce, Katie Holmes
Horror • Rated R

Conan The Barbarian
Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10
Jason Momoa, Rachel Nichols
Action Fantasy • Rated R

Spy Kids: All The Time In The World
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Jessica Alba, Joel McHale
Spy film, Adventure • Rated PG

Rise of the Planet of the Apes
Friday 4:20 7:20 10:00
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 10:00
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20
James Franco, Freida Pinto
Science fiction • Rated PG 13

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Reese Witherspoon hit by car during jog in Calif.

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—Actress Reese Witherspoon was struck by a car while jogging near Los Angeles on Wednesday morning and suffered minor injuries.

Santa Monica police Sgt. Richard Lewis says the Oscar-winning actress was hit by a car driven by an 84-year-old woman.

Witherspoon was jogging in an unmarked crosswalk in Santa Monica when the driver struck her at about 20 mph. The 35-year-old actress was taken to a local hospital for treatment.

Lewis says the driver was cited for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

Witherspoon's portrayal of June Carter in the 2005 film "Walk the Line" won her a best-actress Oscar.

Coroner: No drugs in 'Housewives' husband's body

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Coroner's officials found no drugs or alcohol in the system of Russell Armstrong, who appeared with his wife on "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" and killed himself three weeks before the show's second season premiered.

A report on Armstrong's death released Wednesday provided no new details about why the venture capitalist hung himself. He left behind no note, but the report notes that Armstrong had been depressed about financial issues and problems with his estranged wife, Taylor.

There were no signs of foul play, the report states.

Armstrong, 47, made no mention of killing himself on Aug. 12 when he was last seen by his roommate after dinner. Armstrong's body was found Aug. 15 in his bedroom and he had been dead for some time, according to the report.

Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter said toxicology tests completely ruled out that Armstrong had been drinking or taken any drugs before he died. Winter said it "takes a long time" for alcohol and other substances to break down once a person dies.

The new season of the Beverly Hills edition of "Real Housewives" premiered Monday. The marital problems between Russell and Taylor Armstrong were expected to be a major plot point before the businessman's suicide, but the show has been re-edited.

Taylor Armstrong did not attend a scene that was aired in the premiere in which the other "Housewives" expressed shock and some guilt about Russell Armstrong's suicide.

Bravo, which airs the "Real Housewives" franchise, has not said how it will use footage of the businessman in future episodes.

Judge: Neighbor's NY noise suit against Madonna OK

NEW YORK (AP)—Madonna has lost a bid to get rid of a neighbor's lawsuit claiming the superstar made a racket by using her New York City apartment as a rehearsal studio.

A judge turned down Madonna's request to dismiss the suit. Her publicist and lawyer didn't immediately respond to requests for comment Wednesday, after the Aug. 24 decision was reported in the New York Law Journal.

Karen George says Madonna's dance and exercise routines subjected neighbors to "blaring music, stomping and shaking walls" for up to three hours a day. Madonna took steps to dampen the sound in 2009, but George says they didn't work.

She sued Madonna and the building's co-op board. They say the noise never topped legal levels.

The judge says the dispute warrants a trial.

In this Sept. 1, 2011, file photo, actress and singer Madonna arrives for the premiere of the film W.E. at the 68th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy.

AP

Marc Anthony, J. Lo launch fashion lines at Kohl's

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)—Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony may be ending their personal relationship, but their professional one lives on.

Anthony and Lopez launched their fashion lines—the Marc Anthony Collection and the Jennifer Lopez Collection—on Wednesday.

Anthony marked the launch with a ribbon cutting at Kohl's department store in downtown Jersey City, N.J. Lopez did not attend, but Anthony said they collaborated a lot on the work.

"I always had Jennifer as a soundboard and vice versa," he said of his collection. "I'm really happy about her line and I saw all the work that she put into it."

Anthony also said he's "really proud of" Lopez.

The pair, both 42, announced their split in July after seven years of marriage. They have 3-year-old twins named Max and Emme.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bon Jovi in 9-11 encore sings for NY firefighters

NEW YORK (AP)—Rocker Bon Jovi has returned to a Manhattan fire house to pay tribute to firefighters marking the 10-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The New Jersey native was filmed singing "America The Beautiful" Wednesday by an NBC television crew preparing for a special "NFL Kickoff 2011: Back to Football" show Saturday. He sang the same song for a performance that aired nationally on Sept. 23, 2001 prior to the kickoff of the first NFL games after 9/11. Bon Jovi said in an interview after Wednesday's performance that it was "as moving this time as it was then." Bon Jovi has spent three decades touring with his songs, which include "Livin' on a Prayer" and "It's My Life." The band has sold more than 100 million records worldwide.

Molly Sims to host spinoff of 'Project Runway'

NEW YORK (AP)—Supermodel Molly Sims will host a new competition reality show about the cutthroat world of accessories designing called "Project Accessory." The cable Lifetime network announced the choice Wednesday for host of the spinoff of "Project Runway." Twelve contestants will take part in challenges to highlight their creativity and eye for detail when creating jewelry, belts, bags and shoes. Lifestyle expert Eva Lorenzotti will be the contestants' mentor. Designer Kenneth Cole and InStyle Editor Ariel Foxman will be judges. "Project Accessory" is to premiere later this year. Sims is no stranger to the accessory world. She has her own jewelry line called Grayce by Molly Sims.

Andrea Mitchell has cancer; prognosis 'terrific'

NEW YORK (AP)—NBC News' Andrea Mitchell says she has breast cancer but says it hasn't spread and calls her prognosis "terrific." Mitchell made the announcement Wednesday during her MSNBC show, "Andrea Mitchell Reports." She says the cancer was discovered during an annual screening "just a short time ago." Counting herself among the one in eight women in the U.S. who have breast cancer, she said hers was caught in the early stage and noted she was already back at work. Mitchell reminded women that screening for breast cancer is important. She said she's looking at this experience "as another of life's lessons." Besides hosting her show, she is NBC News' chief foreign affairs correspondent.

Facebook to stream Kennedy Center's 9/11 tribute

WASHINGTON (AP)—A tribute concert at the Kennedy Center to mark the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks featuring Wynton Marsalis, Emmylou Harris and Denyce Graves will be streamed live on Facebook. ABC's Christiane Amanpour is hosting the Thursday evening concert in Washington. Readings will be offered by former Secretaries of State Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice and Madeleine Albright. The National Symphony Orchestra will perform under the direction of John Mauceri. Facebook spokesman Andrew Noyes says the event will be streamed live on the social networking site. He says people can share their memories of 9/11 and reflections on the anniversary on Facebook before, during and after the concert. The New Republic magazine is co-hosting the event and will publish a commemorative edition.

Dinner disaster makes party planner want to disappear

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a confident, well-established administrative professional who has worked with an executive team most of my career.

I organized a very large company party and, because my regular caterer didn't specialize in the kind of barbecue that was needed, I took a chance on an unknown one. I had never used this caterer, but went on the recommendation of three colleagues I trust.

In the end, it was the most humiliating disaster I've ever experienced. Not only was there not enough food, but it was presented in a sloppy, unprofessional manner. No beverages arrived, so we had to do without them for the event.

I have never had anything like this happen before, and the responsibility was mine. It was embarrassing for me and the people I work with. I couldn't even show my face. I stayed in the background trying to fix things as best I could.

I can't seem to get past this. I feel like a failure. I am seriously thinking of applying for a job at another company so I can put it all behind me. I had red flags along the way, but ignored them because I trusted the individuals who recommended the caterer. What are your thoughts?

WISH I'D GONE WITH MY GUT

DEAR WISH: You're a perfectionist, and I respect that. But before you punish yourself by throwing away a perfectly good career with your current company over one regrettable screwup, please consider that NOBODY bats 1000. Yes, what happened was regrettable, but it's in the past. It's possible that the recommended caterer was also having a bad day. If you need absolution, discuss this with your employer. You have learned your lesson. Now let it go.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I'm four months pregnant with our second child and dreading the birth because of my fiance's parents. After the birth of our first child, I asked "Cliff" to allow me two weeks without overnight visitors so I could settle in with the new baby. That following weekend his parents called and said, "We're coming, and we're staying with you guys!"

My mom and Cliff were the only ones in the delivery room, and that's how I wanted it. I want it that way again this time. Cliff's mom had made it clear her feelings were hurt because she wasn't "being invited in."

Because my son will be less than 2 years old when the new baby comes, my mom will be taking vacation time to come and help me out. Is it wrong of me to tell Cliff's parents they can't come and stay that soon after the birth of the new one? Cliff and his dad act like long-lost frat guys when they see each other, and I find it irresponsible, childish and a sore spot in our relationship.

PREGNANT WITH APPREHENSION

DEAR PREGNANT: Your problem isn't your fiance's parents. It's his inability to act like a mature adult. When his parents announced they were coming, he should have put a stop to it then and there. Because he seems unwilling to speak up, YOU must assume that responsibility, unless you want a repeat of the "open house" party that happened the last time.

When you give birth your wishes should be paramount. It is not performance art. Your doctor will back you up if you make your wishes clear in advance.

Cliff's mom might have been more welcome this time if she hadn't intruded after your last delivery. But, please, don't place the blame entirely on her because it's possible your fiance didn't tell her you needed peace, quiet and time to adjust when they announced they were coming.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

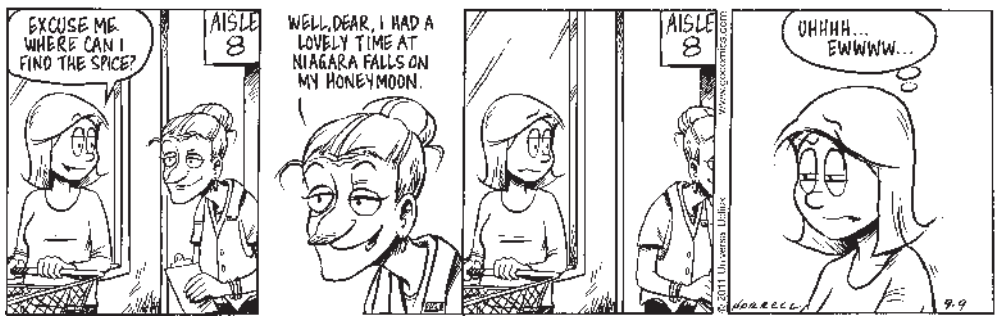
HURRY UP, CALVIN. OUR RESERVATION IS FOR 7:00.
CAN HOBBES COME TO THE RESTAURANT?
NO.
WHY NOT?
WE'RE AFRAID HE MIGHT EAT SOMEONE. LET'S GO.
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU PROBABLY WOULD, WOULDN'T YOU?
I CAN NEVER STAY ON A DIET IN A RESTAURANT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

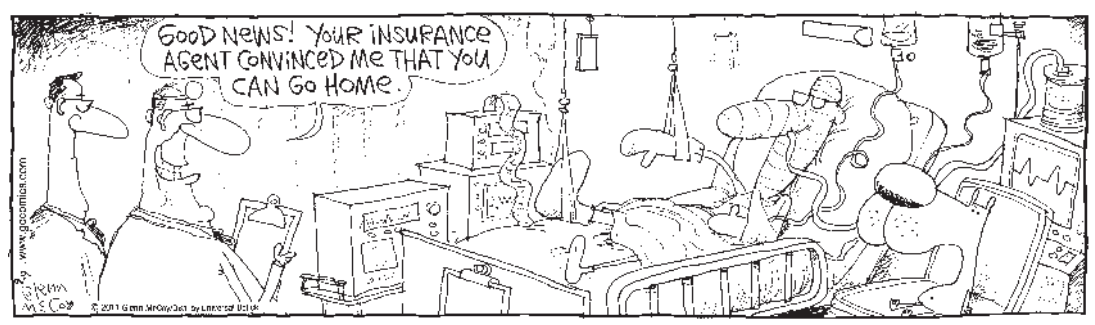
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


EXCUSE ME. WHERE CAN I FIND THE SPICE?
AISLE 8
WELL, DEAR, I HAD A LOVELY TIME AT NIAGARA FALLS ON MY HONEYMOON.
AISLE 8
UHHHH... EWWWW...
9-9

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

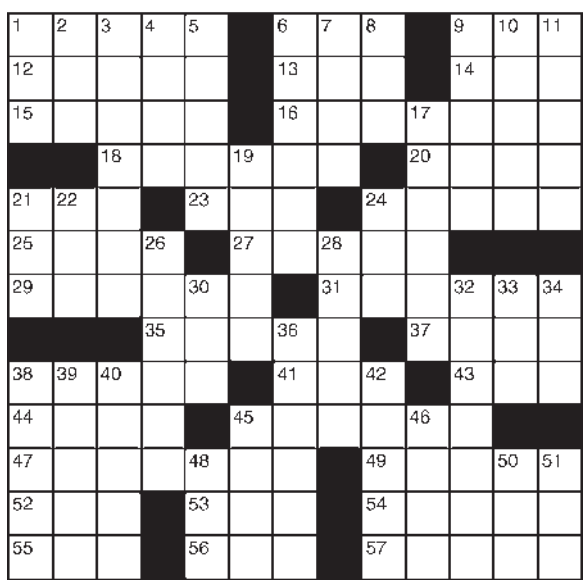
ACROSS
1 Superheroes' garments
6 "Wham!"
9 Noun following a prep.
12 Tequila source
13 — pro nobis
14 Macabre author
15 Riddle
16 Wine experts
18 Family-related, in a way
20 Raw rocks
21 That girl
23 Corpulent
24 Don't blink
25 Mine, partially
27 Winter warmer
29 "Raging Bull" star
31 Claim
35 Comes to earth
37 Take to the seas
38 Bread
41 Symbol of intrigue
43 Crafty
44 "— for All Seasons"
45 Most contemptible
47 Skill
49 Winning
52 "Eureka!"
53 Scooted
54 Trunk
55 Mineo of movies
56 Get on
57 Feel

DOWN
1 Upper limit
2 Back
3 Part of a horse's leg
4 Always
5 Letter line
6 Spud
7 Exam format
8 Existed
9 "Tosca," for one
10 Hole-making bug
11 Ventura or Eisenberg
17 Comes to
19 Breakfast strips
21 Turf
22 Color
24 Scale member
26 Mum
28 Docket entries
30 Shaft of light
32 Oriental
33 Hodges of baseball
34 TV Tarzan player
36 Wrestler-turned-actor Johnson
38 Half a 1960s quartet
39 Nebraska city
40 Twangy
42 Triumphs over
45 Boast
46 Loafer, for one
48 Historic time
50 Nincompoop
51 Buck's mate

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	A	S	H	■	I	C	I	■	F	L	A	T
L	U	T	E	■	N	O	N	■	I	N	R	E
A	R	I	A	■	S	E	C	■	E	S	N	E
P	A	R	R	O	T	■	H	U	S	T	O	N
■	■	■	S	K	I	■	■	P	T	A	■	■
F	A	I	T	■	N	U	I	S	A	N	C	E
O	W	N	■	■	C	N	N	■	■	C	A	L
R	E	S	T	A	T	E	S	■	S	E	M	I
■	■	T	A	X	■	■	T	O	W	■	■	■
S	O	R	B	E	T	■	A	Z	A	L	E	A
E	L	U	L	■	H	A	L	■	T	O	L	D
R	A	C	E	■	I	L	L	■	H	O	L	D
A	N	T	S	■	S	I	S	■	E	K	E	S

Yesterday's answer 9-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michelle Williams, 31; Michael Buble, 36; Eric Stonestreet, 40; Hugh Grant, 51

Happy Birthday: Under- and overestimating will be a problem. You have to size up each situation and find simple solutions. An opportunity to learn something new or to visit a place you've never been will lead to an interesting new beginning. Don't limit what you can do, when all that's required is a little discipline and the ability to get along with others. Your numbers are 6, 13, 18, 24, 28, 30, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't share your thoughts. You will get far more accomplished if you work quietly on your own. You don't want to waste time explaining your reasons for doing things. Don't let personal matters slow you down or put a damper on your mood. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): An outsider may lead you astray. You must focus on what needs to be done at home or on the promises you made to those close to your heart. Love is on the rise and will be directly linked to how you treat others. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take a creative approach when dealing with acquaintances. Questioning the motives of others can be tricky and can lead to suspicion. Your best bet is to show what you have to offer and what you expect in return. Honesty is favored, no matter who it will hurt. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Step up and take over. You can enjoy the benefits of being the center of attention if you take on the responsibilities that go along with being the leader. Love is highlighted, but you shouldn't feel compelled to overspend to impress someone. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Prepare to make whatever changes are necessary to make your life better. Financial gains can be made, but you may have to give up something to turn things around. Figure out what you can do without, then put those assets on the market. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Helping others can be a beautiful experience. By volunteering your services, you will open doors to greater opportunities. Align yourself with people who have as much to offer as you, and you will find that you are included in an extraordinary group. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Do things differently and, most of all, show how creative and intelligent you can be. You will attract attention, both good and bad. You have plenty to contribute, and the only crime will be not saying what's on your mind. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You have to scope out the whole scenario if you want to react to what's going on around you. Stand up for your rights and your beliefs. A passionate but honest approach will win you the support you need. ✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): It is best to keep your thoughts to yourself until you fully understand what you are up against. You can be true to yourself, but question your motives before moving forward. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Someone from your past may bring back emotional memories that cloud your vision. You may need to rely on a trusted friend's judgment to make a personal decision. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Consistency will help to stabilize your life. Honesty regarding your feelings and where you see yourself heading in the future will help you make a positive move. Strategize and set a workable budget that will allow you to invest more in you and your surroundings. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Impulse must be avoided. You have to pick a direction. If you start changing your mind, you can expect to be questioned. Spending downtime with someone who has your best interest at heart will be enlightening. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You strive to be the best at everything but often tend to go overboard.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6						2	
5			6		9			8
		4				1		
	7		4		3		6	
				1				
	3		9		2		5	
		2				5		
1			8		5			2
	9						4	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	5	1	3	4	2	8	7	9
7	4	9	1	8	6	5	3	2
3	8	2	5	9	7	6	1	4
2	1	5	9	7	8	3	4	6
9	6	7	4	1	3	2	5	8
4	3	8	6	2	5	7	9	1
1	7	6	8	3	9	4	2	5
8	9	3	2	5	4	1	6	7
5	2	4	7	6	1	9	8	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/08

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BETTY FORD (1918-2011) **Solution: 9 letters**

B	E	G	A	R	I	M	O	H	C	N	A	R	G	B
E	T	A	N	O	I	S	S	A	P	H	L	E	E	L
A	E	F	O	U	N	D	I	N	G	A	O	T	R	O
C	O	T	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	H	A	O
O	P	G	A	V	E	N	E	R	G	Y	T	G	L	M
N	E	L	O	C	T	S	R	I	F	A	D	U	D	E
O	N	T	E	A	O	N	H	O	J	L	B	A	E	R
I	E	P	O	H	L	V	R	E	L	P	U	L	L	K
T	F	R	I	E	N	D	D	H	C	E	E	E	T	A
A	I	T	N	A	C	E	R	A	C	A	G	T	T	E
T	W	D	S	E	E	C	N	A	D	A	R	O	A	P
U	F	U	N	D	I	N	G	I	C	N	E	B	B	S
P	S	T	E	V	E	N	N	Y	E	V	I	T	C	A
E	E	Q	U	A	L	G	L	E	A	H	C	I	M	V
R	Z	T	L	A	W	H	I	T	E	H	O	U	S	E

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Active, Advocate, Battle, Beacon, Betty Ford Center, Bloomer, Brace, Care, Dance, Devote, Energy, Equal, First, Founding, Friend, Funding, Gerald, Goal, Help, Hope, John, Lady, Laughter, Leading, Legacy, Lend, Michael, Open, Passionate, Play, President, Rancho Mirage, Real, Reputation, Role, Save, Speak, Steven, Susan, Teach, Waltz, White House, Wife

Yesterday's Answer: Twisting

The NEW Treasury Bond is currently paying a record interest rate of 3.5% and a full $1,000 face value bond can be purchased for $342 or as little as $35 in Treasury Direct. Currently $1,000 bonds are selling at a discount, but when they mature, the owner will receive the full $1,000 face value. Bonds can be purchased directly from the U.S. Government at www.treasurydirect.gov or by calling 1-800-943-6864. Online at www.wonderword.com. To date 139 puzzles 33 of which are challenges 20 x 20 size.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	COMBO (PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

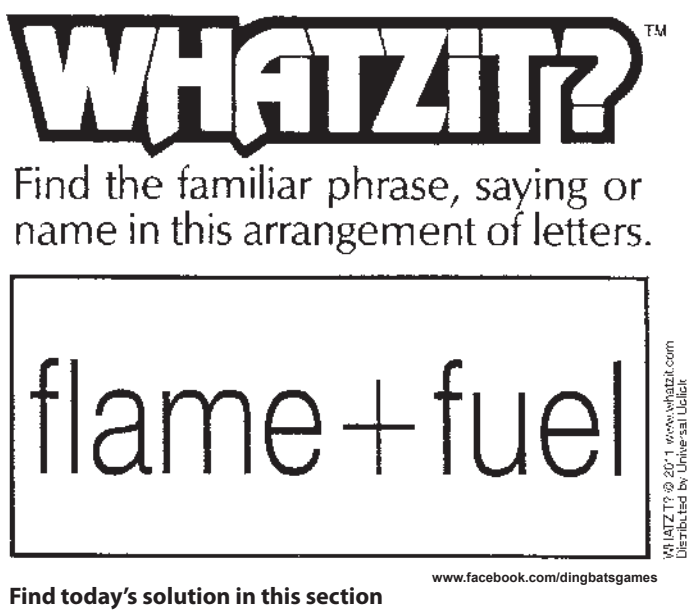
Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
flame + fuel
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Student Laptop Promo
Only $15 service only to restore to original setting.
Service promo ends Oct. 31st
Please call 233-5641
Calvo Corp
Open: 7 Day a Week • 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

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3 UNITS – 20 X 40 SQ. FT. EACH – DANDAN MAIN ROAD.
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Space next door to Mom & Pop's Store. Convenient Parking!

APT FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM – SEMI FURNISHED **$275.00**
1 BEDROOM – SEMI FURNISHED **$175.00**
Located in CHALAN KANOA

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CALL 288-4916 / 287-0717

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For Immediate Hire
H.E. OPERATOR
(w/ 5 years experience)

Apply in person at
Conwood Products, Inc.
Chalan Laulau, Middle Road.

FOR SALE
250 KVA Generator (2006)
Rarely used
Asking Price: $8,800
Contact: 483-6668

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Job Vacancy Announcement

JVA No. 11-057

Opening Date: Wednesday, September 7, 2011
Closing Date: Until Filled

Water Services Manager (Rota)

Duties: Under the direct supervision of the Deputy Director for Rota. Position is required under the Stipulated Order of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Incumbent will supervise staff; prioritize and assign work; conduct performance evaluations; ensure staff are trained; and make hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Manage day to day operations; approve schedules; prepare weekly and monthly reports; plan and coordinate projects; review project plans; respond to emergency calls; maintain records; ensure compliance with policies and procedures; and enforce maintenance schedules. Conduct inspections to determine problems and needed repairs for services and equipment. Determine operating policies and procedures for the department. Conduct in-house training, meetings and briefings. Receive, process and prioritize work orders; provide cost estimates. Ensure proper equipment materials and supplies are ordered. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level as required.

Location: Rota, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
Salary: $45,000 to $65,000 per annum; un-classified, un-graded. (Relocation costs to and from Rota will be negotiated if hired from outside of Rota.)
Position: One.
Contract: Two-year.

Minimum Requirements: High School Diploma or GED or ABE, plus proven experience as a direct responsible charge, plus at least a current Water Distribution Level 2 certification from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, or U.S. commonwealth and at least a current Water Treatment Level 3 certification from a U.S. state, U.S. territory, or U.S. commonwealth. CNMI driver's license upon hire. Knowledge of: Supervisory principles; Principles and procedures of water systems; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Applicable codes, laws, rules and regulations; Inventory control principles; Mathematics. Skill in: Monitoring and evaluating staff; Prioritizing and assigning work to staff; Preparing daily schedules; Assisting in preparing budgets; Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Using computers and related software applications; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Public Law 17-36 restricts CUC in the hiring of foreign national workers. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, or otherwise eligible to work in the U.S. and specifically the CNMI without needing sponsorship by CUC for a U.S. work visa.

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A. • Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 Fax (670) 235-5131

Job Vacancy Announcements

Opening Date: 8/9/11 **Closing Date: 9/14/11**

JVA No. 11-039 for Power Generation Division

JVA No. 11-040 for Power Division (Transmission and Distribution)

JVA No. 11-041 for Water Division

JVA No. 11-042 for Wastewater Division

TRADES ASSISTANT

DUTIES: Under the overall supervision of the division manager or his/her designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in service area assigned. Performs preventative maintenance on equipment in service area assigned. Assists with various construction related duties in service area assigned. Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies. Cleans up, gathers and puts away equipment, materials and supplies for activities/projects. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. SUBJECT TO PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: High School Diploma, or G.E.D. Knowledge of: Basic preventative maintenance principles; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Performing preventative maintenance; Performing basic maintenance; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. APPLICANTS MAY BE TESTED.

LOCATION: Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

POSITIONS: At least one per JVA.

SALARY: $11,036.00 per annum.

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

Public Law 17-36 restricts CUC in the hiring foreign national workers. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens, U.S. Permanent Residents, or otherwise eligible to work in the U.S. and specifically the CNMI without needing sponsorship by CUC for a U.S. work visa.

Applications may be picked up at the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building or the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

CUC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

Store Manager

If you are a leader with a management background, we would like to meet you.

Minimum Qualifications:

- 2 years experience in managing 8 or more employees
- Must be computer proficient
- High School diploma required – College degree a plus
- Driver's license / Transportation
- Excellent spoken and written English communication skills
- Retail experience – desirable
- Ability to meet weekly deadlines/monthly goals

Starting salary negotiable based on experience and work history. Benefits include 100% medical/dental, paid vacations, paid sick time, paid holidays, and much more!

No calls please. Send resume' and salary history to: dialcareers@gmail.com.

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COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

POSITION: Comptroller
PAYLEVEL/STEP: Ungraded
SALARY: $50,000 - $65,000
TERM: Two Years, renewable

CLOSING DATE: Friday, September 9, 2011

Position Summary: The position is an excepted service position and is responsible for directing the fiscal function of the organization in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and other regulatory and advisory organizations. The employee provides the Board of Directors with an independent and expert evaluation on financial issues, the fiscal health of the Authority; and recommends changes that will improve the quality of fiscal planning and management of CDA. The incumbent shall also perform other functions as the Executive Director and the Board may require. The position is an Officer of the Authority.

Qualification Requirements: Must hold a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university in Accounting and a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in governmental or financial accounting; U.S. Certified Public Accountant is preferred but not required. Copy of degree/official transcript, police clearance, and professional certification must be attached to the application and must be submitted to the Office of Personnel Management.

For more information, please contact Mr. Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director by e-mail at executive@cda.gov.mp or by phone at 234-6245.

Detailed job description with qualification requirements can be obtained at the CDA Office, Wakins Bldg., Gualo Rai or our website at www.cda.gov.mp .

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nighttime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Get Paid for Customer Research.
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We are seriously interested in BUYING used cars. Must be in good condition. Year 2000 & up (Pick-up 4 cly.) We pay cash! Call 287-7676

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WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Accounting Supervisor/Assistant Manager
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $6.00 - $7.50/per hour

Qualifications: Graduate from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in accounting or a closely related field and three (3) years of professional accounting experience with supervisory experience required. Knowledge of Opera System preferred. CPA certification required.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** IT/Computer Technician
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $5.05- $6.00/per hour

Qualifications: College Degree in computer science or equivalent and three (3) years work experience with computers services required. Customer service industry experience also a plus.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Purchasing Clerk
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $5.05/per hour

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent and one (1) year work experience in Purchasing (or related field) and customer service experience required. Knowledge of MS Office. Strong proficiency in Microsoft Excel highly recommended.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Personnel Assistant
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $5.05 - $6.00/per hour

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent and experience in resident and nonresident employee processing required. Knowledge of government regulations and licenses preferred. Knowledge in Human Resources a plus. Customer Service experiences referred.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Chef (Western Cuisine)
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $6.00- $7.00/per hour

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent and at least (3) year work experience and knowledge in Western Cuisine and customer service experience required. Experience and knowledge in preparing for banquet a plus.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Steward
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $5.05/per hour

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent and at least (1) work experience year required. Hospitality industry experiences also a plus.

OPEN DATE: Sept. 09, 2011 **POSITION:** Prim/Lifeguard
CLOSE DATE: Sept. 16, 2011 **SALARY:** $5.05/per hour

Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent and First-aid and lifeguard certifications preferred, but not required. Sports, recreation, and hospitality industry experience also a plus.

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Office at (670) 234-5900 ext. 576/575.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete applications will not be considered for the position.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
RFQ11-GOV-134

A&E REDESIGN of the THE PUERTO RICO DUMP CLOSURE

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified consultants to provid Architectural & Engineering re-design of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project located on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The complete Scope of Work for the A&E services required will be available on Wednesday, August 24, 2011, at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (US $50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. Questions regarding the RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4 p.m. ChST September 05, 2011.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and a Schedule of Completion, addressing the Scope of Work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished by the consultants, with the names of the responsible persons identified. Proposers shall also submit a statement of qualifications with resumes and experience for the responsible persons. The total proposal length shall not exceed fifty (50) pages in length, inclusive of resumes and previous project discriptions. Note that a firm which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, the consultant may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and Background of the Company(s) and proposed assigned personnel - 25%
2. Past experience of the consultant on design of similar projects - 25%
3. Project Approach and Schedule for Completion - 25%
4. Demonstrated capability of ability to perform the work required - 25%

Performance time for completion of the A&E redesign is One Hundred Sixty (160) calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed and shall be the greater of (i) two hundred dollars (US$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by the number of calendar days of the contract time, the contract time and contract price being determined at the time of the assessment of liquidated damages for each and every day beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three ranked (3) firms. After a selection is made negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"RFQ11-GOV-134, A&E ReDesign of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project".** For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, September 19, 2011. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST, September 19, 2011, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, September 19, 2011, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than September 28, 2011 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the sole property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos, Lt. Governor /s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-048

Geothermal Energy Development on Saipan, CNMI
ADDENDUM NO. 1

Dated: September 2, 2011

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-RFP-11-048, Geothermal Energy Development, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marina Islands:

- The initial Scope-of-Work and Proposal Solicitation Notice for CUC-RFP-11-048 has been amended. All registered prospective Offerors will be provided with a complete copy of the amended Scope-of-Work & Proposal Solicitation Notice;
- The deadline for submission of proposals has been extended from September 6, 2011 to November 15, 2011;
- The deadline for submission of inquiries has been extended to November 1, 2011.

Stage 1, Geothermal Gradient Project

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms to collect and evaluate scientific data to better determine the potential for development of geothermal energy on Saipan. Available information suggests that the geothermal gradient beneath Saipan may be sufficiently steep to develop geothermal energy to generate electricity.

The technical complexity of the Project and the need to collect and evaluate extensive data will require the successful Proposer to provide the expertise from various professional disciplines, conduct exploratory drilling, and provide equipment and materials necessary to complete the Scope of Work.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Service will be e-mailed to all interested Offeror, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of $ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **September 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original, Six (6) copies, and one (1) digitized version (PDF) must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-048 "Saipan Geothermal Development Project" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **November 15, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **November 01, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Dr. James Quick, CNMI Energy Advisor and Consultant via email address jquick@smu.edu. ; Mr. Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director -Power via email address wallon59@yahoo.com and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications of prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ALAN FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

ADDENDUM NO. 1
09-05-11
RFQ11-GOV-134
A&E Re-Design of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure

The previously advertised notice, Request for Qualification ("RFQ") for the **"A&E Re-Design of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure"** has been amended. The specific amendment is to include Scope of Work, extension of bids due and bids opening date and extension of performance time to one hundred eighty (180) calendar days. Amendment shall read:

*Bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST October 13, 2011**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. ChST October 13,2011, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 13, 2011** and must be received no later than **October 24, 2011 ChST**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid. Questions regarding the RFQ must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or fax to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4:30 p.m. ChST September 27, 2011.*

All other elements of the RFQ remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670)664-2371 or by fax at (670)664-2408. Questions are due no later than close of business day September 27, 2011.

/s/ Eloy S. Inos, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement & Supply

Plane crash extends horrific summer for NHL

By GREG BEACHAM
AP SPORTS WRITER

From Anaheim to Montreal, the world's best hockey players struggled Wednesday to comprehend a shocking loss to their sport after a chartered Russian plane carrying the Kontinental Hockey League's Lokomotiv Yaroslavl team crashed, killing several NHL veterans in one of the worst air disasters in sports history.

Many players heard about the accident on their way back to work from summer breaks. Most NHL training camps open next weekend, and every club radiates optimism for the season ahead.

But hockey is hurting after an offseason of tragedies and disappointments, including the deaths of three players in a four-month span before the catastrophic crash.

"The hockey world mourns yet again. Please God, we can't take much more," tweeted New York forward Brandon Prust, the former roommate of late Rangers enforcer Derek Boogaard.

Even a glorious, seven-game Stanley Cup series ended ugly with riots in Vancouver when the Canucks lost to the Boston Bruins. Looting, vandalism and sporadic violence left 140 people injured and resulted in 100 arrests and millions in property damage.

"This has been a terrible summer for the sport all around," said Predators center David Legwand, who played four seasons in Nashville with Karlis Skrastins, a respected NHL veteran killed in the crash. "(Hockey) is a pretty tight-knit family, whether you play in Russia, Switzerland, Finland, Sweden ... it is a tough thing for everybody."

Fans of Swedish hockey team HV71 gather outside the arena to pay tribute to their team's former goalie of six seasons, and Lokomotiv team member Stefan Liv, in Jonkoping, Sweden, Wednesday Sept. 7, 2011.

AP

No NHL team was left unscarred by the obliteration of a top club in the KHL, which emerged as Europe's most lucrative league over the past three years, with teams in former Soviet republics competing with the NHL for players mostly from eastern Europe.

In the intertwined world of elite hockey, it's impossible to find two teams without players who share a common playing history, nationality or friendship. Lokomotiv's roster included three-time All-Star Pavol Demitra, a Slovakian who played for five NHL clubs; veteran Belarusian defenseman Ruslan Salei, who met his wife in Anaheim and raised his family in Orange County; and Czech forward Josef Vasicek, who won the Stanley Cup with Carolina in 2006.

"I am still in disbelief about today's tragic news," said former Avalanche captain Joe Sakic, who played with Skrastins and Salei in Colorado. "Both Karlis and Ruslan were unbelievable individuals and great teammates. They will be sorely missed."

Hockey had been reeling since May 13, when Boogaard died in his apartment in Minneapolis.

The personable forward was one of the NHL's top enforcers, bringing charisma to the traditional hockey role of brawler who sticks up for his teammates in crowd-pleasing fights. Boogaard died from an accidental mix of alcohol and the painkiller oxycodone, officials said. Meantime, Boston University scientists are studying his brain to determine whether he had a degenerative condition resulting from hits to the head.

Three months later the body of Rick Rypien of the Winnipeg Jets was discovered at his home in Alberta after a police official said a call was answered for a "sudden and non-suspicious" death. Although Rypien had suffered from depression for a decade, his brawling style of play raised additional questions about the mental health of enforcers.

Recently retired player Wade Belak hanged himself in Toronto on Aug. 31, a person familiar with the case told the AP.

The Lokomotiv disaster will linger over the upcoming NHL season, particularly for teams with direct connections to the club. The Detroit Red Wings were hit particularly hard: Lokomotiv coach Brad McCrimmon was Red Wings captain Nicklas Lidstrom's defensive partner and an assistant to Detroit coach Mike Babcock until May, while Salei played 75 games for Detroit last season.

"It's just so sad that their lives have suddenly changed forever, and now they've got no dad or husband," Babcock said after driving to the McCrimmon family's home earlier Wednesday. "It just goes to show that you can't miss out on doing stuff with your family, because change can come in an instant."

A start-and-stop day at Flushing Meadows

NEW YORK (AP)—Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick and Andy Murray got in about 15 minutes of tennis Wednesday—barely enough to work up a sweat, but more than enough to get into a snit.

Rain washed out the matches for the second straight day at the U.S. Open, creating a logjam in the schedule and a bigger mess in the locker room, where the big-name players questioned the wisdom of putting them out on courts that were still damp thanks to a fine mist that was falling in the morning.

Shortly after they started, play was called, then late in the afternoon, the men were sent home.

Much later, and right after Serena Williams warmed up for her match against Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, the U.S. Tennis Association finally scrubbed the women's matches, too, calling everyone back for an 11 a.m. start Thursday, when the weather forecast is every bit as dodgy—an 80 percent chance of rain.

"Right now, it's our intention to finish the tournament on time," said tournament director Jim Curley, while acknowledging all the things working against that possibility.

If the weather cooperates, this will be a Grand Slam the likes of which very few of these players have seen. To win, a man on the bottom half of the draw—Nadal, Roddick or Murray, for example—would need to win four matches in four days. The men on the top of the draw—Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic among them—had their quarterfinal matches postponed and are in for a long haul, as well.

But well before Nadal and Company pondered the weekend, they expressed their concerns about being put in harm's way. When play was halted, they marched straight into the tournament referee's office to discuss the situation.

"If you know you're going to go on court only for 10 minutes, you don't have to lie to the fans at that point, and you don't have to lie to the players, too," said Nadal, the defending champion, who trailed unseeded Gilles Muller 3-0 when play was stopped. "The players knew when we (went) on court that it was still raining, so it was a very strange decision, and we were upset about that."

Curley, however, said player safety is the USTA's top concern and that only one player—Roddick—made any mention to a chair umpire of the slick conditions when he walked on the court.

"The players want to make sure they're playing under safe conditions," Curley said. "That's the concern they've expressed. We share that concern. But at the end of the day, it's the referee who makes the call on whether or not the court is fit for play."

With rain showers lingering over the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center for the rest of the day, this debate about safety, weather and scheduling—along with whether the USTA should build a covered stadium and whether the players should form a union—had to suffice for the day's entertainment.

Murray and Roddick also weighed in.

"It didn't really make a whole lot of sense in the end to go out for nine or 10 minutes when it's still raining," Murray said.

Nadal conceded he let his reluctance get to him, which played into a pair of double-faults in his opening service game and his early 3-0 deficit.

No. 4 Murray was trailing 2-1 to American Donald Young, but on serve. No. 21 Roddick got an early break and led No. 5 David Ferrer 3-1. Roddick said he did, in fact, speak to the chair umpire before play began.

"I was just wondering if he saw the same mist in the air that I saw," Roddick said. "The back was still a little wet. I understand everyone wants to see it on TV and certainly, at the end of the day, we're a sport, but this whole thing is a business. Everyone here is kind of in the same boat, so they need a product on the court."

The match between No. 28 John Isner and No. 12 Gilles Simon was moved to Court 17 in an attempt to complete the fourth round as soon as possible. But the rain started before they hit a single ball.

One person who liked the way the whole thing was playing out: Jimmy Connors, who was in the indoor practice facility hitting with Jim Courier in the afternoon—tucked on a court between Williams and Tsonga, who will play Federer when the weather clears.

"I like it because it's more than tennis now," Connors said. "The tennis is primary, but how you deal with all the surroundings, the scheduling, the rain, on-and-off and things like that, this is old school. It's why they call it the toughest tennis in town."

NBA owners, union talk; to meet again Thursday

NEW YORK (AP)—NBA owners and players met for about 5 1/2 hours Wednesday, plan to resume negotiations Thursday, and could even sit down again Friday.

While neither side would say if progress is being made, the frequency of the discussions seems a good sign. They met only twice in the first two months of the lockout that began July 1.

But they went for about six hours last Wednesday, and decided they would go multiple days this week. Both sides said they could even carry over the discussions into a third consecutive day if things go well during Thursday's session.

"We agreed that we're going to sit here for as many days as we can to see whether we can make progress, but we agreed not to characterize anything at all," Commissioner David Stern said.

Both sides were cautious not to portray any optimism—though one player briefly did on Twitter, before saying his account had been hacked—or any other feelings about what was happening in the room at a midtown hotel. They said last week they wanted details of the discussions to remain private and seem intent on keeping that vow.

"It's tough to characterize it in one fashion or another. Obviously, the more we have the opportunities to meet, talk and discuss and really try to figure out how we can put a deal together, the better, so you can characterize that as positive in a sense," union president Derek Fisher of the Lakers said. "But to characterize what comes out of the meetings and whether we're making progress or we have momentum, we can't say and it's tough to say. Until the deal is done, there is no deal."

Stern was joined on the owners' side by Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver, San Antonio Spurs owner Peter Holt, who heads the labor relations committee, and NBA senior vice president and deputy general counsel Dan Rube. The union negotiators were Fisher, executive vice president Billy Hunter, attorneys Jeffrey Kessler and Ron Klempner, and economist Kevin Murphy.

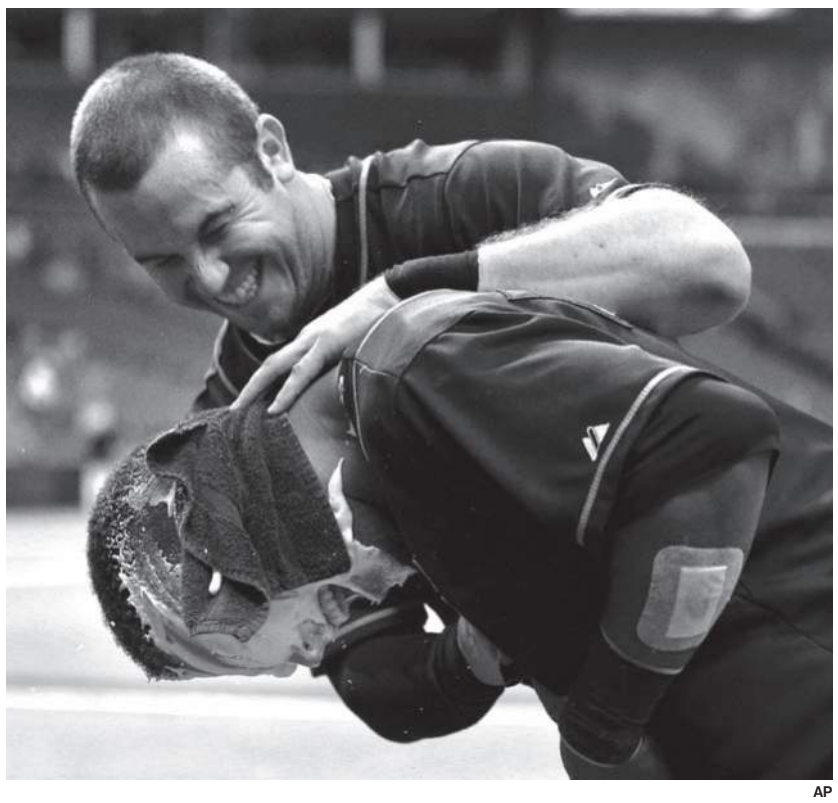
Rays edge Rangers over 10 innings

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP)—Tampa Bay's Desmond Jennings homered on the first pitch in the bottom of the 10th inning to give the Rays a 5-4 win over the Texas Rangers in the American League on Wednesday.

Jennings won the game with his ninth homer of the season off Mark Lowe (2-3), cutting Texas' lead in the AL West division standings to 2-1/2 games ahead of Los Angeles.

Texas had tied it at 4-4 in the ninth when Ian Kinsler hit his second homer of the game. He has seven homers in his past seven games.

The win was the 1,000th overall for the Tampa Bay franchise. The Rays have lost 1,245.



AP

Tampa Bay Rays' Evan Longoria, top, hits teammate Desmond Jennings with a cream pie after Jennings' walk-off home run off Texas Rangers relief pitcher Mark Lowe during the 10th inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2011, in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Blue Jays 11, Red Sox 10

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit a tiebreaking double in the eighth inning to complete Toronto's comeback win over Boston.

Toronto trailed 8-6 heading into the eighth against Daniel Bard (2-6). The Blue Jays tied it when Bard issued consecutive walks with the bases loaded to Eric Thames and Jose Bautista.

Matt Albers replaced Bard, and gave up a three-run double to Encarnacion, who went 2 for 4 with a sacrifice fly and matched his career-high with five RBIs.

Toronto's Shawn Camp (4-3) pitched one inning for the win and Frank Francisco survived a two-run ninth to record his 13th save.

Tigers 8, Indians 6

In Cleveland, Justin Verlander won his 10th straight start and earned his 22nd victory of the season as Detroit downed Cleveland.

Verlander (22-5) gave up two two-run homers and trailed 4-2 before Detroit rallied against Justin Masterson (11-9) and the Indians' bullpen.

The comeback was completed when Victor Martinez hit a grand slam in Detroit's five-run seventh inning.

Verlander leads the majors in wins and is 20-2 since May 1. He gave up four runs and three hits in six innings, striking out eight.

Tigers closer Jose Valverde pitched a perfect ninth for his 42nd save, tying the team record sent by Todd Jones in 2000. Valverde has not blown a save this year.

Orioles 5, Yankees 4, 11 innings

In New York, Mark Reynolds turned around a dismal personal night of four strikeouts by hitting the winning single in the 11th inning, lifting Baltimore over New York.

Less than 11 hours after the finish of Tuesday's game, the teams were back at it, with Baltimore's Nolan Reimold hitting a two-run homer off A.J. Burnett.

Reynolds' two-out RBI single came off Hector Noesi (2-1).

New York put runners at the corners with two outs in the bottom of the 11th. but Eric Chavez hit into a forceout to end the game after 4 hours, 23 minutes.

Angels 3, Mariners 1

In Anaheim, Maicer Izturis hit a go-ahead, two-run double in the eighth inning to lift Los Angeles over Seattle.

Peter Bourjos added a run-scoring single in the eighth as Los Angeles kept up its pressure on Texas.

Angels starter Jerome Williams (3-0) gave up only one hit in eight innings, narrowly outdueling Seattle rookie Charlie Furbush (3-8), who held the Angels scoreless until the eighth.

Twins 5, White Sox 4

In Minneapolis, Minnesota snapped its 20-inning scoreless streak and went on to edge Chicago.

Danny Valencia's two-run single ended the drought and rookie Chris Parmelee then added a two-run double to help the Twins avoid a sweep.

Minnesota starter Carl Pavano (8-11) pitched 5 1-3 innings, giving up one earned run, giving the Twins their first win in six games. Joe Nathan closed the game to get the save.

Chicago starter John Danks (6-11) allowed five runs.

Athletics 7, Royals 0

In Oakland, Guillermo Moscoso held Kansas City hitless into the eighth inning, steering Oakland to a comfortable win.

Moscoso (8-8) threw 8 2-3 innings allowing no runs, and only one walk. He set an Oakland record by retiring 30 consecutive hitters — the final 13 against Seattle last Friday and the first 17 against the Royals.

Jemile Weeks had four hits and drove in a run for the A's. , who won for the fifth time in seven games. Scott Sizemore doubled home two runs and Hideki Matsui, Josh Willingham and Adam Rosales also drove in runs.

Phillies 3, Braves 2

In Philadelphia, Phillies' Ross Gload hit an RBI single in the bottom of the ninth to lift the Phillies to a win over Atlanta, increasing their lead over the Braves in the National League East division to 10-1/2 games.

The major league-leading Phillies closed in on their fifth straight division title. They are 43 games above .500 for the first time in franchise history.

However the win may come at a cost, as five-time All-Star Chase Utley left the game for precautionary reasons for a possible concussion, two innings after he was hit in the helmet by a pitch.

In the bottom of the ninth, Raul Ibanez drew a one-out walk off Peter Moylan (1-1). Carlos Ruiz followed with a single then Gload ripped a hard ground ball down the right-field line to score Ibanez.

Cardinals 2, Brewers 0

In St. Louis, Chris Carpenter pitched his first shutout in two years to guide St. Louis past Milwaukee.

Rafael Furcal hit a solo homer for the Cardinals, who moved within 8-1/2 games of the first-place Brewers in the NL Central with 19 games to play. The Cardinals are 6-1/2 games behind Atlanta in the wild card race, with the Braves coming to St. Louis on Friday for a three-game series.

The benches and bullpens emptied in the top of the ninth after Carpenter (9-9) struck out Nyjer Morgan. The two had words and Morgan headed toward the mound before being restrained by teammate Prince Fielder. No punches were thrown and Morgan was ejected.

Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 3

In Denver, Arizona extended its lead in the NL West race to seven games by beating Colorado.

Diamondbacks starter Joe Saunders (10-2) tossed six solid innings, giving up three runs and only one walk.

Justin Upton and Miguel Montero homered, while Jon McDonald and Gerardo Parra had two hits each for Arizona.

Padres 3, Giants 1

In San Diego, Aaron Harang threw seven strong innings as San Diego dealt another blow to San Francisco's fading playoff hopes.

The Giants, who have 19 games left, came into the game trailing NL West-leading Arizona by six games.

Cameron Maybin had two hits and an RBI while Will Venable hit a solo homer for the Padres.

Mets 1, Marlins 0

In Miami, R.A. Dickey blanked Florida for seven innings, pitching New York past Florida.

Jose Reyes led off the game with a single and scored on a double by Lucas Duda and that was enough for the victory. The Mets won despite having only five hits.

Dickey (8-11) and two relievers held the Marlins to five hits also.

It was the last game New York will play in the stadium before the Marlins relocate to a new park next season, and Wednesday's win meant the Mets finished with a 75-74 win-loss record against their divisional rival at that park.

Cubs 6, Reds 3

In Chicago, Carlos Pena hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the eighth inning to give Chicago victory over Cincinnati.

Aramis Ramirez had a two-run double for Chicago, while Starlin Castro and D.J. LeMahieu each had two hits.

Castro sparked the winning rally with a leadoff single against Logan Ondrusek (4-5). Reed Johnson moved Castro to second with a sacrifice before the Reds intentionally walked Ramirez, bring in left-handed pitcher Bill Bray to face the lefty-batting Pena.

Pirates 5, Astros 4

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen homered twice as Pittsburgh edged Houston.

McCutchen hit a solo homer in the first after Houston had taken a 3-0 lead and a three-run shot in the fifth to tie the game 4-4.

Jason Jaramillo hit the winner in the eighth, getting a single that scored Chase d'Arnaud, giving manager Clint Hurdle his 600th career victory.

The Pirates' bullpen combined for 5 2-3 innings of scoreless relief, with Tony Watson (2-2) getting the final out in the eighth and Joel Hanrahan working a perfect ninth for his 36th save.

Manning won't play vs Texans, streak ends

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Peyton Manning's streak is over.

The Colts quarterback will not play Sunday in the season opener at Houston, bringing an end to his streak of 227 consecutive starts, including the playoffs. The team said 38-year-old Kerry Collins will start against the Texans as Manning continues his long recovery from neck surgery in May.

"It's going to be a little different without Peyton," coach Jim Caldwell said. "He's one of a kind. When you look across our league, most teams have had quarterbacks that have missed time. Ours has just been highly unusual."

The streak is the second longest among NFL quarterbacks behind only Brett Favre, whose 297-game run ended last season just before he called it a career.

Collins, who was brought out of retirement just two weeks ago to run the Colts' pass-heavy offense, has been preparing as though he would start.

"I expect to run the offense, bottom line," he said. "Make plays when they're there, be smart with the ball, make good reads, good decisions, get us into the right plays when the situation calls for it. I'm going into this week thinking I'm going to run the offense as best I can."

Defensive end Dwight Freeney said the Colts still expect to play at a championship level.

"Obviously, we're not used to not having him (Manning) out there," Freeney said. "He's a great player. There are 52 other guys on the team, and one guy does not win the game."

During his streak, the 35-year-old Manning has led the Colts to 11 playoff appearances, 11 double-digit win seasons, eight division crowns, two AFC titles and the first Super Bowl championship in the franchise's Indianapolis era.

Manning had been listed as doubtful for the game, but losing him for any time is a shock to Indy fans, not to mention his teammates. Not only has the four-time NFL MVP never missed a start, he's rarely missed practice.

Manning sat out one week of training camp in 1998 before signing his rookie contract. A decade later, he missed all of training camp in 2008 because he underwent surgery twice to remove an infected bursa sac from his left knee.

The only other time his playing status was in doubt was 2001 after he was injured at Minnesota in a preseason game.

He had always made it back for game day. Not this time.

"To say I am disappointed in not being able to play is an understatement," Manning said in a statement released by the team. "The best part about football is being out there on the field playing with my teammates. It will be tough not to be out there playing for the organization and our fans. I simply am not healthy enough to play, and I am doing everything I can to get my health back. The team will do fine without me, and I know for sure that I will miss them much more than they miss me."

Manning had neck surgery to repair a nerve May 23, but the recovery has taken much longer than the expected 6-8 weeks that would have put him back on the field for the start of training camp. Instead, he started camp on the physically unable to perform list and wasn't activated until last Monday.

He did limited work at practice last week, which led to complaints about back pain. The team issued a statement saying that team doctors had re-evaluated Manning and instructed him to stop practicing while he undergoes more tests. No additional surgery has been scheduled.

Caldwell said the bad news only became clear Wednesday.

"We always knew it was a chance," he said. "That's what doubtful means. You always have to prepare for the worst and hope for the best."

Caldwell said he had confidence in Collins, who was lured out of retirement by the Colts as Manning's recovery dragged on.

"The guy's thrown for 40,000 yards. He can throw the ball," Caldwell said.

Collins has made 177 career starts and been to two Pro Bowls. He took the Carolina Panthers to the 1996 NFC Championship game and the New York Giants to the Super Bowl after the 2000 season. He helped Tennessee post the AFC's best record (13-3) in 2008.

ROP 11: Onra tonight at Saipan World Resort

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Trench Tech Purebred Promotions' Rites of Passage 11: Onra goes down tonight at Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom. Doors open at 7pm and fights start at 8pm.

Notably, there has been a recent change in the triple main event as USA's Will "The Kill" Chope suffered an injury during training.

Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez said because of the development Marianas Elite's Maitai "The Charger" Charley (3-7) will now face Guam's Kyle Pablo of Mong Mong Toto Maite in a regular fight.

Pablo so far has only one fight under his belt when he won here in Trench Warz 10: Collision.

Alvarez said moving up to the main event is the bout between Trench Tech's "Badd" Brad Palacios (5-2) and Guam's The Attack" Limiac (3-4), out of Tsunami Gym.

A Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu blue belt and Muay Thai fighter, Limiac has been training in the United Kingdom for the past two years. Palacios, meanwhile, is undoubtedly one of Saipan's best fighters in his weight class.

The second main event, on the other hand, features Trench Tech's Fasi "Quickdraw" Jesse (7-3) against USA's Joseph "J.J." Ambrose (15-3), out of Tiger Muay Thai.

Ambrose holds a Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu brown belt and has been training in Thailand for the past year. He also competed in Ultimate Fighter Championship's TUF Season 12. For his part, Jesse is hands-down Saipan's best lightweight fighter.

Both Ambrose and Jesse are riding winning streaks and have agreed to meet at the catch weight of 160 lbs.

The third and final main event of the evening is a heavyweight brawl between Trench Tech's Mylo "AlabaMMA" Lassiter (2-0) and Marianas Elite's Myron "The Natural" San Nicolas (5-2).

With San Nicolas fighting under current Pacific Xtreme Combat and Trench Tech People's Champion, Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial, some words have already been exchanged between the pair as San Nicolas stands in the way of Lassiter, who wants a shot at the championship.

Perhaps overlooking San Nicolas, Lassiter has gone on record saying he wants the People's Champ belt and wants a crack at Fitial to get it.

Lassiter has yet to face a worthy opponent with two swift first round victories, and although more experienced, San Nicolas has not been in the cage for two years.

Just before the main events, Trench Tech will unveil its first-ever featherweight title bout between home bet Shane "Pikaboo" Alavarez (6-0) and Marianas Elite's Derrick "El' Peligro" Rangamar (3-9).

Local MMA fans have been waiting to see this one go down for a very long time as both have built very respectable reputations in their careers.

Rangamar has faced the cream of the crop and never shied away from a fight (even if he is the smaller fighter), while Alvarez comes from an MMA family that knows the business inside out.

In addition, a special female boxing exhibition "rematch" is set between Guam's top female boxer, 18-year-old Gianna "GiaBaby" Sarusal, of Dededo Boxing Club and Lights Out Gym, and Saipan's Tara "The Tarantula" Namauleg at 150 lbs. These two met before in Guam for about a minute before the judges called it off due to Namauleg not having the proper protective equipment.

Other matchups include a second boxing exhibition between Trench Tech's Mark "The Dark" Nuique and Zalaka's Franklin Agulto at 155 lbs and four K-1 Kickboxing matches, which include Tinian's Regino Mundo (3-0) of Zeng Zung against Guahan newcomer Justin "Dungka" Dizon of Guam Muay Thai at 150 lbs; Zalaka's Jacob Ilo vs. Guam's John Garcia of Counter Shot at 125 lbs; Haga's Jordan "Jungle Boy" Ogo vs. Counter Shot's Jared "Smiley Face" Santos at 120 lbs; and Pwang's Pete Keju vs. Trench Tech's Frank Muna in a double-debut at 160 lbs.

Notably, both Counter Shot K-1 fighters train under South Pacific Games Taekwondo gold medalist Sonny Chargualaf.

Seven other MMA bouts are listed on the fight card, which include Rangamar's training partner, Irvin Saralu of Quarter Master Head Hunters taking on three-year Trench Tech student Vince Masga in a double-debut lightweight tiff; Myron's little brother Derrick "The Headache" San Nicolas making his independent debut against Trench Tech's Ryan "Trobz" Ngirbabul (1-0) at 195 lbs; longtime Counter Shot student Kevin Miranda against Trench Tech's Josh "Chaos" Duenas (1-0) at 135 lbs; a double-debut match between Trench Tech's Frankie Ramangmao and independent Leonard "J.C." Cabrera at 135 lbs; Zalaka's Joe "Da Combo" Duenas (1-0) against independent Jason "Ground Maintenance" Teregeyo (0-1) at 135 lbs; Trench Tech's Walt "The Silent Assault" Florencio debuting against Kev "The Rev" Esteves (1-4) at 135 lbs; and a juicy grudge match between independents Brandon "Commotion" Camacho and Danny "Warrior" Santos at 145 lbs.

"ROP11-Onra is dedicated to all the heroes, civilians, and soldiers who fight the real wars around the world and is a tribute to their sacrifices," said Alvarez.

He added that fights are subject to change. The listed fight records were derived from www.sherdog.com.

Tickets will be sold at the door for $20 and only $25 for VIP seating. Contact Alvarez at 483-4MMA (4662) for more information.

CNMI

From Page 36

sport was included in the Pacific Games calendar beginning in 1999. The triumph also avenged the Commonwealth's 5-6 loss to Guam in the elimination round and gave the CNMI its first medal in New Caledonia with only two days left in the competition.

Besides the final score, detailed information about the CNMI-Guam game was unavailable at press time. However, it was Josh Jones who led the Commonwealth's victory with another impressive pitching performance.

After sitting out their early loss to Guam, Jones entered the game in the third inning and crushed their archrival's dream of ruling the baseball competition for the third time. Guam won the gold medal in 1999 when it hosted the Games and in 2003 in Fiji. Palau took the gold medal in the 2007 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa, and with the CNMI's win in New Caledonia, Micronesia kept its domination of the sport in the quadrennial event.

With Jones pitching from the third to the ninth inning, Guam scored only two runs, one each in the third and sixth inning. Guam's two other runs came early at the bottom of the first, while the CNMI failed to score in the first two innings and fell behind, 0-2.

In the third inning, the CNMI began making a move, scoring four runs and taking the driver's seat, 4-3. Guam scored only one run at the bottom of the third to slowly lose control of the match.

The Commonwealth sluggers hung on to the lead, as their defense shut out Guam anew in the fourth and fifth innings and then limited the eventual silver medalists to one run in the last four innings.

On offense, after failing to reach home plate anew in the fourth inning, Tony Rogolifoi's wards added four more runs in the last five innings to seal the deal.

Joining Jones and Rogolifoi on the gold medal winning squad are Juan Maratita, Eric Tenorio, Ian Rogolifoi, Keoni Lizama, Mike Iguel, Vince Cepeda, Elton Santos, Jesus Iguel, Tyrone Omar, Franco Flores, Thomas Joab, Jerome Delos Santos, Byron Kaipat, Manny Sablan, Craig Sanchez, and Saipan Major League Baseball president Rose Igitol.

The CNMI Baseball Team finished the elimination round with a 3-2 record and was the last team to advance into the playoffs. Then it had to win back-to-back games last Wednesday to make it to the finals. The Commonwealth players first defeated New Caledonia in the morning match, 11-5, and then blanked Palau in the semifinals, 8-0, to march into the finals against Guam.

The finals victory over its neighbor was the second in five years for the CNMI, as the Commonwealth also downed Guam in the finals of the 2006 Micronesian Games, 3-2.

Mister, Nelson lose anew

In beach volleyball, Chris Nelson and Tyce Mister formally bowed out of medal contention after dropping two games yesterday at the Terrain de beach-volley Koutio in Dumbea.

The CNMI spikers first bowed to Papua New Guinea's Moha Mea and Manly Kapa, 18-21, 21-17, 15-11, and then lost to Vanuatu's Rio and Pierrick Lesines, 11-21, 12-21. It was the Commonwealth bets' fourth straight defeat and they finished Pool B at fifth place with a 1-4 record. Mister and Nelson's lone win came from Palau last Monday. They also lost to Tahiti and American Samoa and will play the Cook Islands today for ranking purposes only.

Defending champion Tahiti will meet New Caledonia in the semis with the winner advancing to the gold medal game against the victor of Fiji-Vanuatu tussle.

Regardless of the results of the beach volleyball competition, New Caledonia is already assured of the overall championship in the 2011 Pacific Games as the host is way ahead in the medal standings with its 90 gold medals, 78 silver, and 38 bronze.

Tahiti has also secured the No. 2 spot with its 45-31-31 tally. PNG dislodged Fiji at third place, as the former now has a 34-19-41 tally against the latter's 28-32-36. Samoa padded its gold medal haul to 17 and also has 12 silver and 27 bronze to complete the Top 5.

In other results, Rachel Abrams competed in the finals of the 200m run yesterday and timed in at 27.48 seconds, two seconds lower than her qualifying time. The CNMI sprinter finished eighth in the finals won by PNG's Toea Wisil (24.61 seconds).

WILD BILL

From Page 36

Futsal, 4-2.

Matt Holey led the win with his twin goals, while Arkie Reusora and Dale Roberts contributed one each. Min Jong Choi nailed all the two goals for Korean Futsal, which led in the first round, but collapsed in the second to fall to fourth place with its 6-4-2 slate. Red Inter improved to a 7-3-2 card for a tie for second place with Docomo.

IT&E 6, Docomo 3

Docomo absorbed its third loss after IT&E won their Tuesday match, 6-3.

Jin Han Yoon had a hat-trick for IT&E, while Richard Wang tallied two. Kirk Schuler scored one goal for IT&E, which snapped its third-game losing skid and improved to a 5-7-1 card.

Ropati Tonuu logged a pair of goals for Docomo, while Peter Loken drilled one.

Thundercats 6, Mellow Yellow 6

The Thundercats avoided a 12th straight loss after forcing Mellow Yellow to a draw, 6-6.

Daniel Agulto and Hae Sung Lee scored two goals each for the Thundercats, while Timothy Tawanpiy and Evert Van Der Maas posted one apiece.

Phiraj recorded three goals for Mellow Yellow, Allen Mijares carded two, and Woo Ho Jin made one.

WOMEN'S IT&E Awesome 6, Kulet's Team 4

The battle for the women's crown is still tight, as the Top 3 placers won their respective matches.

IT&E Awesome won over Kulet's Team on Wednesday night, 6-4, to keep the second spot. IT&E Awesome now has a 9-2-1 slate, just one win behind Shirley's A (10-2-0).

Carrie Schuler fired two goals for IT&E Awesome, which drew one goal each from Michelle Masga, Julie Hall, Connie Camacho, and Vanessa Mobel.

Vanessa Pritchard and Corina Suda scored two goals apeice for Kulet's Team.

Shirley's A 10, IT&E Blossom 1

Shirley's A stayed on top of the women's field after clobbering IT&E Blossom on Tuesday night, 10-1.

Irish Pagarao anchored Shirley's A's 10th win with her four goals, while Jeraldine Castillo contributed three. Angie Ito, Marie Iriarte, and Melody Johnson added one goal each. Ana Hilario scored IT&E Blossom's lone goal.

Shirley's B 8, Mellow Yellow 1

Shirley's B took the No. 3 spot in the team standings, following an 8-1 demolition of Mellow Yellow on Wednesday night.

Shirley's B now has an 8-4-0 card. Mikky Vargas and Alexa Vergara teamed up in the victory, nailing four and three goals, respectively.

Melanie Santos was the only player to score for Mellow Yellow.

Red Team 5, Thai Team 1

Red Team occupied the fourth spot in the eight-team field after a 5-1 triumph over Thai Team.

Megan Herger had a pair of goals for Red Team, which improved to a 7-5-0 card. Amber Robertsm Jeane Bracken, and Zoe Jewell also made it to the scoreboard for Red Team.

Thai Team's only goal in the game came from Catherine Perry.

OL'ACES

From Page 36

Ol'Aces' roster of seven caught their second wind after the break and managed to steal the lead, 54-52, heading in the payoff period. Ol'Aces' Christian DeVero scrambled for seven markers, while teammates Lawrence Rollon and Luther Taylor came off the bench with five points apiece.

This battle went all the way to the last 30 seconds as the Rollers 2 missed a great chance under the basket that may have sent it into overtime. Their last-gasp attempt rimmed out and Ol'Aces' Kevin DeLeon drained three pressure-packed free throws to secure the victory.

It was a group effort by the Ol'Aces as the team wrung out any energy it had left as a unit.

Hossain led the Ol'Aces with 19 points, while Rollers 2's Rodney Sacramento and Rodney Danas tallied 18 apiece in the loss.

Ol'Aecs 78 – Hossain 19, DeVero 17, Taylor 12, DeLeon 10, Rollon 9, Ichihara 6, Mizer 4.

Rollers 2 73 – Danas 18, Sacramento 18, Iglesias 10, Metran 8, Maranan 6, Salas 5, Ano 4, Rabauliman 2, DLGuerrero 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-18, 33-34, 54-52, 78-73.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	87	54	.617	–
Boston	85	57	.599	2 1/2
Tampa Bay	78	64	.549	9 1/2
Toronto	71	72	.497	17
Baltimore	56	85	.397	31

Central Division

Detroit	81	62	.566	–
Chicago	71	70	.504	9
Cleveland	70	70	.500	9 1/2
Kansas City	60	84	.417	21 1/2
Minnesota	59	84	.413	22

West Division

Texas	81	63	.563	–
Los Angeles	78	65	.545	2 1/2
Oakland	65	78	.455	15 1/2
Seattle	59	83	.415	21

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	91	48	.655	–
Atlanta	82	60	.577	10 1/2
New York	70	71	.496	22
Washington	65	75	.464	26 1/2
Florida	63	79	.444	29 1/2

Central Division

Milwaukee	85	59	.590	–
St. Louis	76	67	.531	8 1/2
Cincinnati	70	73	.490	14 1/2
Pittsburgh	66	77	.462	18 1/2
Chicago	62	81	.434	22 1/2
Houston	48	95	.336	36 1/2

West Division

Arizona	82	61	.573	–
San Francisco	75	68	.524	7
Los Angeles	69	72	.489	12
Colorado	67	76	.469	15
San Diego	62	81	.434	20

Yesterday's Games

N.Y. Mets 1, Florida 0
San Diego 3, San Francisco 1
Philadelphia 3, Atlanta 2
Pittsburgh 5, Houston 4
Chicago Cubs 6, Cincinnati 3
St. Louis 2, Milwaukee 0
Arizona 5, Colorado 3
Detroit 8, Cleveland 6
Baltimore 5, N.Y. Yankees 4, 11 innings
Tampa Bay 5, Texas 4, 10 innings
Oakland 7, Kansas City 0
Toronto 11, Boston 10
Minnesota 5, Chicago White Sox 4
L.A. Angels 3, Seattle 1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Banzai run hits road tomorrow

The 6th Annual POWERade Banzai Memorial Off-Road Half Marathon and Fun Run kicks off tomorrow.

Registration starts at 5:15am, while the half marathon and fun run will begin at 6am and 7am, respectively. Entrance fee is $20. Students and military personnel will get discounted registration fees and will only pay $10.

Participants in the half marathon race will start at Banzai Cliff and head out to the Last Command Post. They will then turn right along Chalan Pale Arnold up to the coral road leading to the FEBC site, go up to the t-intersection at the top of the road and turn right.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

This file photo shows Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel raising his arms in triumph after topping the 5th POWERade Banzai Memorial Half Marathon and Fun Run last year.

Runners will then race though the coral road behind the Marianas Resort Golf Course and once reaching the 1,000,000-gallon water tank, they will turn left at the paved road. Participants reaching the intersection that leads to the old radar station will then go straight to another coral road that leads to the firing range and the Kalabera Cave.

From Kalabera, runners will negotiate another coral road and proceed to a paved section that leads to the Bird Island overlook. They will then turn right at the intersection going to Grotto, go left toward the Santa Claus Lane that intersects with the Fun Run course along the road to Cowtown.

From this point, runners in both races will go below the Cowtown Raceway for the final mile and a half run back to Banzai Cliff.

The fun run course will also begin at Banzai Cliff, but they will turn left instead of right when they reach the Last Command Post and turn left again to the fork in the road leading to the Cowtown Raceway.

Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Rebecca Reed are this year's defending champions in the half marathon race. Kabiriel timed in at an hour, 39 minutes, and 20 seconds to beat 16 other participants in the 13.1-mile race last year and win the men's division for the third straight time. Reed topped the women's division after timing in at 2:03.41.

Running enthusiasts are encouraged to join this weekend's race, as proceeds from the tournament will be donated to the Rollers Basketball Club, whose players will be competing in Guam in November. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Three-way tie for lead in mixed doubles BB

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Two teams from the Saipan Badminton Club and one from the Golden Racquet are in a deadlock for the lead in the mixed doubles BB division of the 2011 Shirley's Badminton Classic after three days of competition at the TSL Sports Complex.

In Pool A, the pair of Gary Bandoja and Oh In Sook of Saipan Badminton Club holds a 2-0 record to tie Golden Raquet's Lito Mendoza and Marlyn Montano. Seven other teams are entered in Pool A.

In Pool B, which also has nine squads, Saipan Badminton Club's Mario Diola and Julie Lee leads the group with their 2-0 slate. Oh Imbog and Toshiko Obata and Chris Hilario and Annette Ta have similar 1-0 cards, while Joseph Santos and Elma Labuson own a 2-1 record.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Badminton Club's Gary Bandoja returns during his and Oh In Sook's game against Emily Vargas and Alvin Alvarez in the mixed doubles BB division of the 2011 Shirley's Badminton Classic last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

Games in the mixed doubles BB and five other divisions will continue this weekend.

In the centerpiece mixed doubles AA, Shirley's Badminton Club's Gerry Hibi and Annarose Omori and Taga's Angie Ito and Andrew Galvez share the top spot with their 2-0 slates. Ferdie Arago and Lani Bartolome have an even 1-1 card, three pairs hold a 0-1 slate, Edwin Montoya and Cheng Saturno have a 1-2 record, and only Dick Guintu and Hannah Choi have yet to play in the group.

No changes in the leaderboard for the mixed doubles lower A were made with Robert Reyes and Malou Malasarte and Bandoja and Choi still ahead with identical 2-0 slates. Angie Ito and Rodwealth Espana and Guintu and Toshiko Obata hold similar 1-0 cards, while Merlie Tolentino and Galvez are also in the win column with an even 1-1 record.

In the mixed doubles CC, the pairs of Kim Boranah and Joel Ortega and Roma Barlao and Nani have the most wins so far with four apiece to lead Pool B and A, respectively. Brandon Talania and Wendy Fernandez and Luis Camacho and Elna Curate are also unbeaten in Pool A with two victories each. In Pool B, Panapa Petero and Lanie Santos notched their third win in as many games to take second place, while Kanata Omori and Cleofe Santos are also undefeated after two matches for the third spot.

Docomo Hustlers pace Agingan, two-way tie in Obyan

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Utopia Sports Bar's Docomo Hustlers are the current Agingan Division leader of the Saipan Billiards Association-2011 Budweiser Summer/Fall 8-Ball League, while there is a two-way tie atop the Obyan Division after the season unveiled last week.

19th Hole Bar & Grill's Poksu and Wild Bill's Shark Attack share identical win-loss cards of 5-2 in the six-team Obyan field.

In Agingan play, the Hustlers routed X-tream, 6-1, on the road at VFW Post 3457. Second-ranked Home Boys Five, of Jonny's Bar & Grill, bested Fotten Palau, 5-2, on the road at Joe's Bar.

Home Boys dropped two of their first three singles matches but swept the last two and took both double matches.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shark Attack defeated Jonny's Bar & Grill's Crazy B, 5-2, in a home game at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill as the SBA-2011 Budweiser Summer Fall 8-Ball League kicked off its season last Sept. 6.

Sand's Bar's IT&E Incredibles edged out IT&E Voyagers, 4-3, in a road match at Jonny's. IT&E Indcredibles won three of the five singles matches and clinched the match after taking the first double game.

Hustlers' Robert Saciangco and Jerry Soriano each ran the table once in their respective matches.

Home Boys Boys Five hosts the Docomo Hustlers; X-tream welcomes IT&E Voyagers; and Fotten Palau has a date with the IT&E Incredibles as Week 3 continues on Tuesday.

Obyan's Shark Attack dropped Jonny's Crazy B, 5-2, at home; while Poksu ran over sister-team Titans, 5-2, in a road match.

Jonny's Team SCS snuck past D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Pirata, 4-3, at home.

Notables include one-time rack runners Rey Pinangay of Crazy B and Team SCS's Erwin Gomez.

Crazy B hosts Poksu; the Titans welcome Team SCS; and Shark Attack makes a call at Pirata's home as Week 3 commences this Tuesday.

Golf Briefs

Fil-Taga September tourney set on Sept. 18

The Fil-Taga Golf Association will hold its September Ace Tournament on Sept. 18 at the Kingfisher Golf Links. According to tournament director Nestor Siruelo, check-in time for the event is 11:30am with tee time set an hour later at 12:30pm at the Talafofo golf venue. Siruelo encouraged Fil-Taga members to visit their website at www.filtaga.com for more information and try its signup online feature. Established in 1993, Fil-Taga's tournaments operate under a computer-controlled handicap system that creates parity among players in the A and B Flights. A Fil-Taga Ace of the Month champion is crowned monthly. Regular tournaments are scheduled once a month, normally every third Sunday. Green fees are in the $35 to $40 price range for most tournaments. ***(Fil-Taga)***

CWGA September Ace tomorrow

The CNMI Women's Golf Association is holding its September Ace Tournament tomorrow morning at Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort. Show time is set for 11:30am with a 12:30pm tee off. This is the fifth event of the season. Established in March 2007, CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI. CWGA members tally points in the monthly tournaments in order to qualify for their annual two-day championship tournament, which is usually held in April. For more information, or to become a member, email lolenggb@hotmail.com or contact Noriko Togawa at 287-0027, Lou Kim at 483-5255, Terry Tudela at 483-1761, Lorraine Babauta at 287-0621, or Bennet Seman at 483-0126. ***(Walter Cepeda Sutherland)***

SGA September Ace Sunday

The Saipan Golfers Association will hold its September Ace of the Month Tournament this Sunday, Sept. 11, at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort. Show time is set at 9am with a tee time at 10:30am. Groupings are arranged on a first-come, first-serve basis. ***(SGA)***

RGA September Ace Sunday

The Refaluwasch Golf Association will be holding its September Ace tournament this Sunday at the Kingfisher Golf Links. Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12pm. There will be a potluck after the competition. Winner of the September Ace will qualify for the RGA Club Championship which will be played in December. ***(RGA)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports

CNMI sluggers win gold medal

Members of the CNMI Baseball Team pose for a group photo with American Samoa players after their match in the 2011 Pacific Games at the Robinson Baseball Field in Mont-Dore last Friday. The Commonwealth sluggers went on to advance in the finals and then beat Guam in the championship game yesterday, 8-4. EMELINDA CABRERA

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Baseball Team almost did not make it to the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia, but now it will return home with the much-coveted gold medal.

The Commonwealth sluggers, who only confirmed their participation in the Games less than a month before the event kicked off due to funding problems, were crowned champions at the Robinson Baseball Field in Mont-Dore after beating Guam in the finals yesterday, 8-4.

It was a sweet victory for the CNMI, as it won the gold medal on its first time to compete in baseball since the

See CNMI on Page 34

Wild Bill's clinches men's championship

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Wild Bill's secured the championship in the men's division of the 2011 Saipan Soccer School Futsal League, following a 10-3 victory over Go Green on Wednesday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Wild Bill's now has a league best 11-1-0 win-loss-draw record with two games left in the double-round robin competition and even if it drops its remaining games, there is no way other teams could catch up with the Jeeraphong Thoensaket-anchored squad.

The inaugural futsal league will award the championship to the team with the best record after 14 games and Wild Bill's closest pursuers, Docomo and Red Inter, have only nine wins apiece with only two matches left in their respective assignments.

A Wild Bill's striker receives a pass from his teammate during their game against Go Green in the first round of the men's futsal league at the TSL Sports Complex. Wild Bill's downed Go Green anew in the second round to clinch the championship early. ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Thoensaket scored six goals in Wild Bill's early title-clinching win, making five of them in the first half to give his team a 5-3 lead. Kiyoshi Sekiguchi canned two goals for Go Green in the first half, while Fradel Sedillo added one.

In the second frame, Wild Bill's added five more goals against Go Green's none. Jack Tanapok had two, while Thoensaket, Jiayuan Guo, and Mai Tree chipped in one apiece.

Red Inter 4, Korean Futsal 2

In the other men's game on Wednesday night, Red Inter topped Korean

See WILD BILL on Page 34

Ol'Aces hold off Rollers 2, 78-73

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

A shorthanded Ol'Aces crew bested Rollers 2, 78-73, on Wednesday as the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League's U19 season continued at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

With a complete roster, the Ol'Aces have won every game they played, dropping just one via forfeit last week to NMC Proa.

Rollers 2 now holds an even win-loss card of 2-2.

The season continues tonight in Gualo Rai with the Sonics (3-1) going up against Rollers 1 (1-3) at 5pm.

Ol'Aces and Rollers 2 were on the run right after the tip, setting the scene for a very fast-pace matchup. After a back-and-forth opening eight minutes, the Rollers 2 held a slim, 18-15, advantage. Five different Rollers 2 players chipped in on the action.

The teams continued to fire away in the second canto and after multiple lead changes, it was just a one-point game, 34-33, still in favor of Rollers 2 at halftime.

Rollers 2 stuck to its game plan of spreading the ball around. Ol'Aces' Sahj Hossain helped keep his team in contention with 12 points in the first half.

See OL'ACES on Page 34

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Ol'Aces' Sahj Hossain gets some hang time in last Wednesday's Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U19 game against Rollers 2 at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.